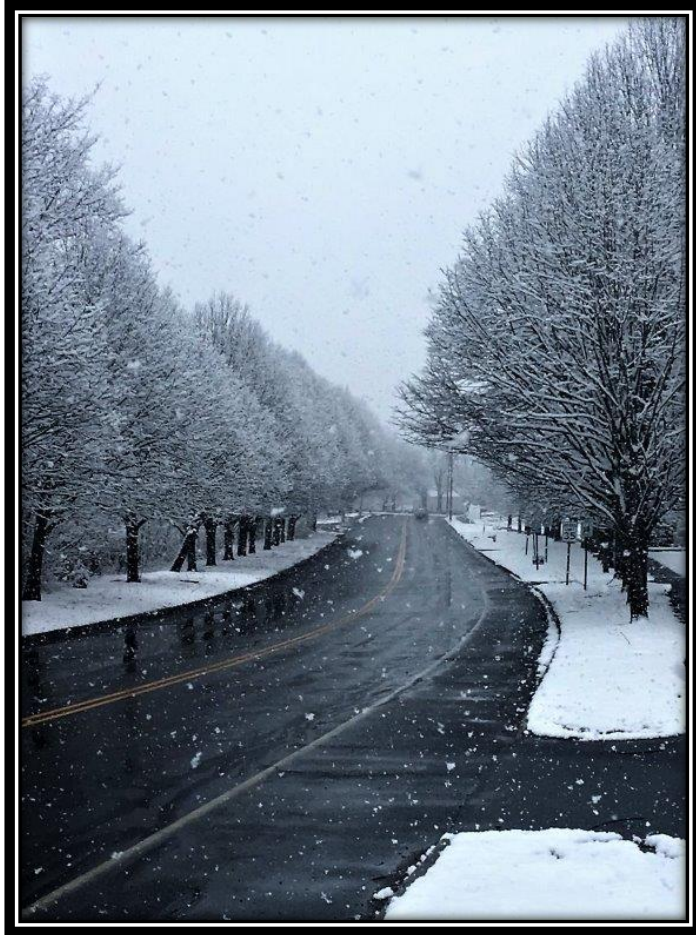


# Town of Bridgewater

## Annual Town Report

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017



### Linden Trees

Northern Gateway to Bridgewater, MA

# **The 2017 Town Report is Dedicated To Margaret Vale Sime**



Margaret Vale Sime, known to all as Vale, began her career in the Town of Bridgewater volunteering at the Board of Health. In 1985, Vale was hired as the Board's secretary, beginning that position on May 1. She served as secretary to the Board of Health until her retirement on August 31, 2007. Vale continued to serve Bridgewater citizens as a volunteer on the Senior Associate Volunteer Experience (S.A.V.E.) Committee until her resignation on May 31, 2017.

Although Board Members and Health Agents changed many times during her employment, Vale's consistency, dedication, and dependability ensured the Health Department's continually smooth and professional functioning. Whether working with contractors, the general public, installers, or board members, Vale was the friendly face, problem-solving, tracking, balancing, and responding to the myriad issues involved in the Health Department's day-to-day business. Her diligence and competence were only ever outshone by her smile which continued throughout her additional years of volunteer service. (Dedication information graciously supplied by Nancy Koska, Health Agent, 1987).

# **OUR TOWN**

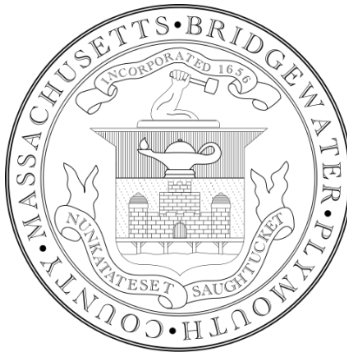
## **ANNUAL REPORT**

of the

## **TOWN OFFICERS**

Of the Town of  
Bridgewater, Massachusetts

**For the Year 2017**



# **TOWN OF BRIDGEWATER**



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## In Memoriam



**Patricia A. Goss 1935-2017**

Patricia, “Patty” Goss was employed by the Town of Bridgewater from 1991 until her retirement in 2006. Recognized for her administrative skills and proficiency, she was promoted from Principle Clerk to Confidential Secretary in 1993, and to the position of Executive Assistant to the Town Administrator and Board of Selectmen in 1998. During her years of service, she was editor of Bridgewater’s *Annual Town Report* and served as an associate member of the Council on Aging. February 3, 2006 was declared by the Board of Selectmen to be “Patricia Goss Day” in Bridgewater.



**Richard J. Monteith 1961 – 2017**

Richard “Dick” Monteith served the Bridgewater Conservation Commission with distinction for sixteen-years, his last six as its Chair. Dick frequently spent nights and weekends viewing Con Com sites. In addition to volunteer Con Com work, Dick always prioritized both family---coaching various sports, attending his children’s events---and career---preparing class work, grading student papers, and attending to the many teaching “extra-curricular” duties. Universally admired by family, students (as Mr. Mon), friends, co-workers and the community at large, Dick was always smiling and ready with a funny story. He is sorely missed by family and the Bridgewater community.

## Congressional, County, Legislative & Town Contacts

Incorporated June 1656  
 8<sup>th</sup> Congressional District – 1<sup>st</sup> Councillor District  
 1<sup>st</sup> Plymouth and Bristol Senatorial District  
 8<sup>th</sup> Plymouth Representative District

<b>United States Congress</b> ( <a href="http://www.congress.gov">www.congress.gov</a> )			
<b>SENATOR ELIZABETH WARREN</b>		<b>REPRESENTATIVE STEPHEN LYNCH</b>	
Boston	617-565-3170	Boston	617-428-2000
Springfield	413-788-2690	Brockton	508-586-5555
Washington, DC	202-224-4543	Quincy	617-657-6305
<b>SENATOR EDWARD (Ed) MARKEY</b>		Washington, DC	202-225-8273
Boston	617-565-8519		
Fall River	508-677-0523		
Springfield	413-785-4610		
Washington, DC	202-224-2742		

Massachusetts Legislature ( <a href="http://www.malegislature.gov">www.malegislature.gov</a> )			
SENATOR MARK PACHECO		REPRESENTATIVE ANGELO L. D’EMILIA	
State House	617-722-1551	State House	617-722-2488
District Office	508-822-3000	District Office	508-697-2700
COUNCILLOR, DISTRICT 1		Joseph C. Ferreira	617-725-4015 X1
<a href="http://www.mass.gov/portal/government/govs-council.html">www.mass.gov/portal/government/govs-council.html</a>			

<b>Plymouth County</b> <a href="http://www.plymouthcountyma.gov/">http://www.plymouthcountyma.gov/</a>			
<b>COMMISSIONERS</b> 508-830-9100		<b>DISTRICT ATTORNEY TIMOTHY J. CRUZ</b>	
Daniel A. Pallotta, Chair		Main Office 508-584-8120	
Gregory M. Hanley			
Sandra M. Wright			
Administrator: Frank Basler			
<b>REGISTER OF DEEDS</b>		<b>REGISTER OF PROBATE &amp; INSOLVENCY</b>	
John Buckley	508-830-9200	Matt McDonough	
		Plymouth	508-747-6204
		Brockton	508-897-5400
<b>SHERIFF-PLYMOUTH COUNTY</b>			
Joseph D. McDonald Jr. 508-830-6200			

### Cities and Towns in Plymouth County:

Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, Carver, Duxbury, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Hingham, Hull, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Marshfield, Mattapoisett, Middleborough, Norwell, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rochester, Rockland, Scituate, Wareham, West Bridgewater, Whitman

**Congressional, County, Legislative, and Town Contacts (continued)**

**Town Web site: [www.bridgewaterma.org](http://www.bridgewaterma.org)**

**Emergency Number — 911**

**Town and School Telephone Numbers**

Accountant	see Finance
Animal Control	see Police
Assessor	see Finance
Building	see Com & Eco Dev
Com & Eco Dev	508-697-0950
Building	508-697-0904
Community Develop.	508-697-0950
Conservation Agent	508-697-0906
Economic Develop.	508-697-0950
Health	508-697-0903
Inspectional Services	508-697-0904
Planning	508-697-0942
Zoning	508-697-0907
Conservation	see Com & Eco Dev
DPW	see Public Works
Economic Develop.	see Com & Eco Dev
Elder Affairs	508-697-0929
Emergency Management	see Fire Dept.
Finance	508-697-0926
Accountant	508-697-0926
Assessor	508-697-0928
Collector/Treasurer	508-697-0923
Fire, including Emergency Management	508-697-0900
Forestry/Tree Warden	see Public Works
Health	see Com & Eco Dev
Highway	see Public Works
Housing Authority	508-697-7405
Information Technology	see Town Mngr.
Parking Enforcement	see Town Mngr.
Parks & Recreation	508-697-8020
Olde Scotland Links	508-279-3344

Planning	see Com & Eco Dev
Plumbing/Gas/Wiring	see Public Works
Police	508-697-6118
Animal Control	508-659-1290
Public Library	508-697-3331
Public Works	508-697-0931
Forestry/Tree Warden	508-697-0931
Roadways	508-697-0931
Solid Waste	508-697-0903
Structures & Grounds	508-697-0931
Water Pollution Control	508-697-0937
Water Supply	508-697-0910
Recreation	see Parks & Recreation
Schools	508-279-2140
B/P Tech School Main	508-823-5151
B/P Supt.	amagalhaes@bptech.org
B/R High School	508-697-6902
Mitchell at the Middle	508-697-6902
	x11120
Superintendent	508-279-2140
Williams	508-697-6968
Town Attorney	508-697-0919 x5
Town Clerk	508-697-0921
Town Manager	508-697-0919 x5
Use number for all depts. below <i>except IT</i>	
Hearing Officer	
Human Resources	
Information Technology	508-697-0966
Parking Enforcement	
Treasurer/Tax Collector	see Finance Dept.
Treatment Plant	see Public Works
Veterans' Services	508-697-0908
Water	see Public Works
Zoning	see Com & Eco Dev

## Elected Town Officials

Organization	Term Expires
<b>Bridgewater Public Library Trustees</b> (3-year term)	
Ellen M. Chiocca Carey	4/2020
Janet Dye	4/2019
Constance Franciosi	4/2020
Judith Gabriel	4/2018
Pam Hayes-Bohanan	4/2020
Laura McAlinden, Chair	4/2018
Nancy Sarno, Vice-Chair	4/2019
Denise Sheppard	4/2019
<b>Bridgewater-Raynham Regional District School CMTE</b> (3-year term)	
Mike Dolan (B)	4/2018
Anthony Ghelfi (R)	4/2018
Jason Hammond (B)	4/2018
Lillian Holbrook (B)	4/2020
Kevin Moreira (R)	4/2020
Susan P. Prewandowski, Secretary (R)	4/2019
Patricia A. Riley, Chair (R)	4/2018
Julie Scleparis (B)	4/2019
<b>Bristol-Plymouth Technical School District</b> (2-year term)	
Mark A. Dangoia (Bridgewater Rep)	4/2019
<b>Town Clerk</b> (3-year term)	
Marilee Kenney Hunt	4/2018
<b>Town Council</b> (3-year term)	
Frederick Chase, Precinct 4	4/2019
Peter Colombotos, Precinct 5	4/2020
Timothy Fitzgibbons, President, Precinct 2	4/2018
Dennis Gallagher, Councilor At-Large	4/2018
Shawn George, Precinct 3	4/2020
Edward Haley, Vice-President, Councilor At-Large	4/2019
Aisha Losche, Precinct 1	4/2018
Francis Sousa, Precinct 7	4/2019
William Wood, Precinct 6	4/2020

## Town Officers

Department/ Phone Number		Name
<b>Accountant</b>	508-697-0926	Anthony Sulmonte
<b>Animal Control Officer</b>	508-659-1290	Lisa McKay
<b>Assessor</b>	508-697-0928	Shelley McCauley Chief Assessor
<b>Building &amp; Zoning Commissioner</b>	508-697-0904	Michael White David Moore (Interim)
<b>Collector/Treasurer</b>	508-697-0936	Jacqueline Rivero Angela Chandler
January to September 2016		
October-December 2016		
<b>Community &amp; Economic Development</b>	508-697-0950	Andrew DeIonno, Director
<b>Conservation Agent</b>	509-697-0906	Azu Etoniru
<b>Constables</b>		<b>Term Ends</b>
Dave Asiaf		12/2016
Katherine Asiaf		12/2016
Marilee Kenney Hunt		12/2016
Joseph Latimer		06/2017
Jerold Loomis		12/2016
Michael Moore		12/2016
William Scharnick		12/2016
Jolie Sprague Martin		12/2016
Christopher R. Wylie		12/2016
<b>Deputy Town Manager</b>	508-697-0919	Kimberly Williams
<b>Elder Affairs Director</b>	508-697-0929	Lorraine Carrozza
<b>Electrical Inspector, See Wiring</b>		
<b>Finance Director</b>	509-697-0926	Anthony Sulmonte
<b>Fire Chief</b>	508-697-0900	Retired, June, 2017 Appointed 2017
Thomas Levy		
<b>Deputy Fire Chief</b>		
John (Jack) J. Hennessey Jr.		
Michael MacDermott		
<b>Hearings Officer</b>	508-697-0919	Michael Dutton
<b>Health Agent</b>	508-697-0903	Eric Badger
<b>Human Resources Director</b>	508-697-0919	Kimberly Williams
<b>Highway Department, See Roadways</b>		
<b>Information Technology Director</b>	508-697-0966	Brad Dzierzak
<b>Inspector of Animals</b>	508-697-0903	Lisa McKay
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Sup't.</b>	508-697-8020	Charles Simonds
(Recreation in 2016)		
<b>Plumbing &amp; Gas</b>	508-697-0904	Robert Cabral, Inspector
<b>Police Department</b>	508-697-6118	Christopher Delmonte, Chief Thomas J. Schlatz, Exec. Officer

### Town Officers (continued)

Department/ Phone Number		Name
<b>Public Library</b>	508-697-3331	C. Sean Daley, Director Ann Gerald, Asst. Director
<b>Roadways Superintendent (formerly Highway Dept.)</b>	508-697-0931	Ronald Ladue
<b>Sealer of Weights &amp; Measures</b> 508-697-0904		David Moore
<b>Sewer Department, see Water Pollution Control</b>		
<b>Town Attorney</b>		Jason Rawlins
<b>Town Clerk's Office</b>	508-697-0921	Jolie Sprague Martin Asst. Town Clerk
<b>Town Council</b>	508-659-1254	<b>Two At-Large Councilors</b> At-Large: Dennis Gallagher At-Large: Edward Haley  <b>Councilors for Seven Precincts</b> Precinct 1: Aisha Losche Precinct 2: Timothy Fitzgibbons Precinct 3: Shawn George Precinct 4: Frederick Chase, appointed 2/2017 Precinct 5: Peter Colombotos Precinct 6: William Wood Precinct 7: Francis Sousa
<b>Town Manager</b>	508-697-0919	Michael Dutton
<b>Treasurer (see Collector/Treasurer)</b>		
<b>Tree Warden (volunteer)</b>	508-697-0931	William Maltby
<b>Veterans' Agent</b>	508-697-0908	Roderick Walsh
<b>Water Pollution Control &amp; Water Supply Director</b>	508-697-0910	Jonas Kazlauskas
<b>Wiring</b>	508-697-0904	Walter Murray, Inspector

# Boards, Committees, and Commissions

## Massachusetts's Open Meeting Law

As required by Massachusetts' Open Meeting Law, all Bridgewater appointed board, commission and committee meetings are posted and open to the public. Meeting dates, location, and times are posted at least 48 hours before the meeting and are available on the Town's web calendar.

- Type [www.bridgewaterma.org](http://www.bridgewaterma.org) in your browser
- Scroll to and click on "Calendar"

Posted meeting notices are also available in a binder at the Town Clerk's Office which is located at 66 Central Square. Meeting agendas and minutes are posted at the Town's website.

- Type [www.bridgewaterma.org](http://www.bridgewaterma.org) in your browser
- Scroll to "Quick Links"
- Select "Agendas and Minutes"

To request automatic notification of any or all meeting postings:

- Type [www.bridgewaterma.org](http://www.bridgewaterma.org) in your browser
- Select "Stay Informed"
- Sign up for notifications of your choice

## Boards, Committees and Commissions

Descriptions of the following boards, committees, and commissions can be found in the **Bridgewater MA Town Code**, available online at:

<http://www.bridgewaterma.org/documentcenter/view/1128>

The information below is in: PART II Administrative Code, Chapter I, Article III, Section "X".

For example, information on the Affordable Housing Trust is found in: PART II Administrative Code, Chapter I, Article III, Section 2.

Organization	Admin Code Section Term Expires
<b>Affordable Housing Trust</b> (2-year term)	Section 2
William M. Callahan	2017
Patrick Driscoll	2017
Town Manager (Michael Dutton), Chair – <i>ex officio</i>	--
Nancy Koczela	2018
Joan Neumeister	2018
<b>Agricultural Commission</b> (3-year term)	Section 3
Brian Alves, Chair	2019
David Anderson	2019
Lori Tuniwicz-Gavin, Clerk	2019

**Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Admin Code Section Term Expires</b>
<b>Assessors, Board of</b> (3-year term) Ronald M. Barron, Clerk Milton Morris Scott Rubin, Chair	Section 4 2020 2020 2020
<b>Cable Advisory Committee</b> (3-year term) Eric Christiansen Joseph Gillis Jr. 1 Vacancy	Section 5 2019 2019
<b>Citizen Advisory Committee</b> (3-year term) Keith Buohl Linda Carp Michael Flaherty Sherley Phillips John Sharland, Chair 1 Vacancy	Section 6 2020 2019 2019 2021 2020
<b>Community Preservation Committee</b> (3-year term) Harry Bailey Jr. (Con Com Rep) Melissa Desjardins, Chair (At-Large) Jean Guarino (Planning Board Rep) Gina Guasconi (Recreation Rep) Kevin James Mandeville (Open Space Rep) Joshua McGraw, <i>Administrative Assistant</i> Joan Neumeister (Housing Authority Rep)) Nicholas Palmeiri (Historic District Commission Rep) 2 Vacancies: Affordable Housing Trust Rep, Historical Commission Rep	Section 7 2020 2020 2021 Continuing 2018  2018 2020
<b>Conant Trust Fund Committee</b> (5-year term) Harold Estabrook III, Assistant Treasurer Marie Fahey, Vice-Chair Michael Levy, Secretary/Clerk John Sylvia, Treasurer David Wolohojian, Chair	Section 8 2022 2019 2020 2021 2018
<b>Conservation Commission</b> (3-year term) Harry Bailey <i>Jane Brown, Staff Liaison</i> Tina Bianco, Associate Member Marilyn MacDonald, Chair Robert Mello Eileen Prisco Matthew Stoddard 2 Vacancies	Section 9 2020 -- 2019 2020 2017 2020 2017



**Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Admin Code Section Term Expires</b>
<b>Cultural Council</b> (2-year term) Limit 2 consecutive terms Angela Dismisioris Teresa Foley Kathryn Golden Matthew Putnam Charles Tarr Nora Tarr, Chair Several Vacancies	Section 10  2016 2018 2016 2018 2018 2018 2018
<b>Design Review Committee</b> (term as needed) Master Plan Rep, Chair – <i>ex officio</i> Planning Board Rep – <i>ex officio</i> Zoning Board of Appeals – <i>ex officio</i>	This is an "as needed" <i>ad hoc</i> committee with appointments by Planning Board when a development arises in the East or the West Gateway Districts. Authorized by zoning by-law 3.34.1. The committee did not meet in calendar year 2017.
<b>Disability Commission</b> (3-year term)  David Frim, Clerk Henry Goldsmith Anna Nakouzi Leslie Reed, Chair Bethany Rocha	This commission is authorized under both the Admin Code Article III Section 11) and MGL (Ch. 40 §8J) 2017 2019 2019 2018 2020
<b>Elder Affairs Commission</b> (3-year term) Sandra Alley Nicholas Bagas Bridget (Pat) Boyle Peter Caratelli Lorraine Carrozza, <i>Staff Liaison</i> Joan Colombo Robert Coolen, Chair Victor Delmonte David Frim Gloria Lemieux, Associate Diane Roza 1 Associate Vacancy	Section 12 2019 2019 2019 2018 -- 2018 2018 2018 2019 2018 2018
<b>Energy Committee</b> (3-year term) Kevin Bligh Thomas Hall Carlton Hunt, Chair	Section 13 2020 2019 2019

**Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Admin Code Section Term Expires</b>
<b>Financial Committee</b> (3-year term) Kenneth Barnard (Town Manager Appointee) George Haley (Town Clerk Appointee) Anthony Hebert (Town Manager Appointee) Eric Langone, Chair (Town Manager Appointee) Michael Mainvielle (Town Manager Appointee) Eric Marchetti, (Town Council Appointee) <i>Joshua McGraw, Staff Assistant</i> Gerald Muller (Town Clerk Appointee) Robert Rees (Town Clerk Appointee) Nathan Schofield, (Town Council Appointee) 1 Vacancy Town Council Appointee	Section 14 2017 2018 (Resigned 2017) 2018 2020 (appointed 7/2017) 2019 -- 2020 2018 2020
<b>Fishery Committee</b> (3-year term) Rick Benton, Secretary, Bridgewater (B) Skip Copeland (B) John Cruz, West Bridgewater (WB) Harold Estabrook, III, Chair (B) Robert Hanson (B) Donald MacDonald (WB) James Sniger (WB) James Souza (WB)	This is a 2-Town Committee: Bridgewater (B) and West Bridgewater (WB).  In Bridgewater, this committee is overseen by Parks & Recreation; in 2017, all positions continued.
<b>Golf Advisory Committee</b> (3-year term) James Campbell Daniel Mahoney Robert McDonough Patrick Montagano John Muir Peter Nash William Nowlin Dennis Weingartner	The Golf Advisory Committee is overseen by Parks & Recreation; in 2017, all positions are continued from past appointments.
<b>Health, Board of</b> (3-year term) <i>Laurie Keane, Staff Liaison</i> Brian Penney, Chair Benjamin S. Poinier, Chair after 6/2017 John Sharland	Section 15 -- Continuing (Resigned 6/2017) 2019 (Resigned 2017) 2020
<b>Historic District Commission</b> (3-year term) Marie Benoit Judith Gabriel James Kirkcaldy <i>Dorothy Lamoreaux, Staff Assistant</i> Nicholas Palmieri Nancy Sarno William Smith, Chair	Section 16 Continuing Continuing Continuing -- 2020 Continuing 2019

**Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Admin Code Section Term Expires</b>
<b>Historical Commission</b> (3-year term) Sharon Anderson Charles Mangio David R. Moore, Chair Madeline Moore Robert B. Wood, Vice-Chair	Section 17 Continuing Continuing 2018 Continuing 2018
<b>Housing Authority</b> (5-year term) Louis Avitable Nicholas Bagas, Vice-Chair Lorraine Carrozza Joan Neumeister, Chair (Governor's Appointee) Martha Shionis, Treasurer Judith Wilson	Section 18 2017 2018 2019 2018 2020 2020
<b>Housing Partnership Committee</b> Not yet appointed in 2017	Section 19
<b>Marijuana Committee <i>ad hoc</i></b> Linda Carp Elizabeth (Betsy) Chouinard Eric Desrochers Edward (Ted) Haley, Chair Patricia Neary Karen Peabody Peter Robillard Matthew Rushton Irving Smith	Term for all members ends 9/30/2018
<b>Master Plan Committee</b> (3-year term) Thomas Hall Carlton Hunt, Chair	Section 20 2019 2019
<b>Open Space Committee</b> (3-year term) Newly forming; No Chair in 2017 Kevin James Mandeville 4 Vacancies	Section 21  2018
<b>Open Space and Recreation Plan Steering Committee <i>ad hoc</i></b> (3-year term) Kitty Doherty Gina Guasconi Carlton Hunt Marilyn MacDonald Kevin James Mandeville Charles Simonds	See Admin Code Article III, Section 1.B.2 All terms expire upon adoption of OSRP (Open Space and Recreation Plan)

**Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Admin Code Section Term Expires</b>
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation Commission</b> (3-year term) Thomas Arrighi Daniel Buron James Campbell <i>Carolyn B. (Brooke) Condon, Summer Staff Liaison</i> Michael Flaherty, Chair Gina Guasconi, Vice-Chair	Section 22 2020 2018 2019 -- 2020 2019
<b>Planning Board</b> (5-year term) Raymond Ajemian, Vice-Chair <i>Leslie Dorr, Staff Liaison</i> Patrick Driscoll, Chair Jean C. Guarino Thomas Hall Frank Sullivan Ashley Vincent, Associate Member 1 Associate Member Vacancy 1 Member Vacancy	Section 23 2018 -- 2020 2021 2019 2017 (Resigned 2017)
<b>Registrars of Voters, Board of</b> (3-year term) Merry H. Boegner (R) Joseph Gillis Jr. (R) Town Clerk (Marilee Kenney Hunt) (D), Chair – <i>ex officio</i> Shawn Mackinaw (D)	Section 24 2017 2019 2018 2018
<b>Sr. Assoc. Volunteer Experience Comm.</b> (3-yr term) (SAVE) SEIU (Paula Bracken), Chair – <i>ex officio</i> Elder Affairs Dir; (Lorraine Carrozza), Secretary – <i>ex officio</i> Margaret Vale Sime, President 1 Resident Vacancy	Section 25 -- --  Resigned May 2017
<b>School Building Committee, ad hoc</b> Michael Bennett Gerald Chipman, Chair Patrick Driscoll Paul Fox Jr. Lillian Holbrook Eric Langone Kathleen A. Macedo Lisa Ohman Ryan T. Powers Renee Rushton Derek Swenson Scott Wauchope	Malcolm J. Benvie Melissa Desjardins Timothy Fitzgibbons John Gerrish Danielle Jones Heidi Letendre Joanne Mulcahey James Perry William A. Rowan Lawrence Silva Carla Thomas
	No Term

**Boards, Committees & Commissions (continued)**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Admin Code Section Term Expires</b>
<b>Town River Fisheries Committee</b> <b>See Fishery Committee</b>	
<b>Transportation Committee</b> (3-year-term) Chief of Police (Christopher Delmonte) – <i>ex officio</i> Roadways Supt. (Ronald Ladue) – <i>ex officio</i> Michael Levy, Chair Fire Chief (Thomas Levy) – <i>ex officio</i>	Section 26 -- -- continuing --
<b>Veterans' Council</b> (3-year term) Dennise Caratazzola Charles Chisholm James D. Dolan, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Chair Pauline Grenier, Secretary William LaBossiere Ronald N. Lembo Kevin Marshall Luigi Primavera, Chair Carl Soderbom Edmund Spencer Veterans' Agent (Roderick K. Walsh) – <i>ex officio</i> Several vacancies	Section 28 Continuing 2019 2017 2020 2021 2020 2021 2020 Continuing Continuing --
<b>Water &amp; Sewer Board</b> (3-year term) Robert Iafrate Darryl L. Vaci, Chair 1 Vacancy	Section 27 2020 2019 2020
<b>Zoning Board of Appeals</b> (3-year term) Anthony Aveni Jr., Chair after A. Bissonnette's resignation Andre Bissonnette, Chair <i>Jane Brown, Staff Liaison</i> Gerald Chipman Brian Heath, Associate Michael Mainvielle 1 Associate Vacancy	Section 29 2020  2017 -- 2020 Continuing 2020

## Administrative Personnel

<b>Accountant (Finance)</b> Laurie Guerrini; Laurie Mahoney; Michelle Rota	<b>508-697-0926</b>
<b>Assessor (Finance)</b> Michelle Burgess	<b>508-697-0928</b>
<b>Building/Inspectional Services (Com &amp; Eco Dev)</b> Ruth Card; Debra Cronin	<b>508-697-0904</b>
<b>Collector/Treasurer (Finance)</b> Cynthia Callahan; Teresa Gillis; Pamela Sproule; Nancy Wolfson	<b>508-697-0923</b>
<b>Conservation (Com &amp; Eco Dev)</b> Jane Brown	<b>508-697-0906</b>
<b>Elder Affairs</b> Joanne Caratelli	<b>508-697-0929</b>
<b>Fire</b> Anne Marie Hanley; Melissa Sullivan	<b>580-697-0900</b>
<b>Health, Board of (Com &amp; Eco Dev)</b> Laurie Keane	<b>508-697-0903</b>
<b>Highway (See Roadways)</b>	
<b>Inspectional Services (See Building)</b>	
<b>Licensing (Com &amp; Eco Dev)</b> Lisa Sullivan	<b>508-697-0950</b>
<b>Parks and Recreation (formerly Recreation)</b> Brooke Condon (summers only)	<b>508-697-8020</b>
<b>Planning (Com &amp; Eco Dev)</b> Leslie Dorr	<b>508-697-0942</b>
<b>Police</b> Paula Bracken; Ann Marie Gill	<b>508-697-6118</b>

**Administrative Personnel (continued)**

<b>Public Library</b> Rose Mamakos, Office Manager/Administration	<b>508-697-3331</b>
<b>Roadways (formerly Highway Dept.)</b> Kimberly Resmini-Bamberg	<b>508-697-0931</b>
<b>Town Clerk</b> Christine M. Nemes	<b>508-697-0921</b>
<b>Town Council</b> Ann Holmberg	<b>508-659-1254</b>
<b>Town Manager</b> Michael J. Spagone	<b>508-697-0919 ext. 5</b>
<b>Treasurer (See Collector/Treasurer)</b>	
<b>Water &amp; Sewer</b> Lorraine Conti; Christine Fabrizio	<b>508-697-0910</b>
<b>Zoning (Com &amp; Eco Dev)</b> Jane Brown	<b>508-697-0950</b>

# 2017 Elections

## Annual Town Election

Saturday, April 22, 2017 (By Charter, last Saturday preceding the last Monday in April)  
Bridgewater Mitchell at the Middle School, 166 Mt. Prospect Street

<b>Voter Breakdown April 22, 2017</b>
Total # Registered Voters: 16, 573
Total # Ballots Cast: 786 (4.7% of registered voters)

In accordance with the provisions of the foregoing warrant, election officers were sworn to faithful performance of their duties by the Town Clerk, who declared the polls open at 7:00 a.m. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. and the election results were read by Town Clerk Marilee Kenney Hunt. Total Votes Cast: 786.

### Town Councilor District 3 (P=Precinct)

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	TOTAL
Shawn P. George			88					88
Sandra M. Wright			78					78
Blanks			2					2
Write Ins			2					2
TOTAL			170					170

### Town Councilor District 5 (P=Precinct)

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	TOTAL
Blanks					38			38
Peter Colombotos					23			23
Brian Alves					3			3
Gregory Lee					1			1
All other Write Ins:					6			6
TOTAL					71			71

### Town Councilor District 6 (P=Precinct)

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	TOTAL
William D. Wood						69		69
Blanks						9		9
Write Ins						0		0
TOTAL						78		78



**2017 Elections (continued)**

**Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School Committee (Bridgewater) (P=Precinct)**

	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>	<b>P7</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Lillian E. Holbrook	144	121	143	46	59	61	110	684
Blanks	8	9	25	6	12	17	18	95
Write Ins	3	0	2	1	0	0	1	7
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>786</b>

**Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School Committee (Raynham) (P=Precinct)**

	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Kevin Moreira	78	60	78	28	34	41	67	386
Louis Allan D'Amarino	69	64	76	19	22	33	58	341
Blanks	7	6	16	6	15	4	4	58
Write Ins	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>53</b>	<b>71</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>129</b>	<b>786</b>

**Trustees of Public Library (P=Precinct)**

	<b>P1</b>	<b>P2</b>	<b>P3</b>	<b>P4</b>	<b>P5</b>	<b>P6</b>	<b>P7</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>
Constance H. Franciosi	120	99	109	41	54	48	91	562
Pamela A. Hayes-Bohanan	123	103	116	38	48	56	97	581
Blanks	209	181	280	75	100	128	194	1167
Ellen Chiocca Carey	3	2	0	1	8	0	0	14
All Other Write Ins	10	5	5	4	3	2	5	34
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>465</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>510</b>	<b>159</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>234</b>	<b>387</b>	<b>2358</b>

A true copy, Attest:  
Marilee Kenney Hunt  
Town Clerk

## Special Town Election Town of Bridgewater June 10, 2017

Voter Breakdown June 10, 2017
Total # Registered Voters: 16, 623
Total # Ballots Cast: 1958 (11% of registered voters)

In accordance with the provisions of the foregoing warrant, election officers were sworn to faithful performance of their duties by the Town Clerk who declared the polls open at 7:00 a.m. The polls were declared closed at 8:00 p.m. and the election results were read by Town Clerk, Marilee Kenney Hunt: Total Votes Cast: 1,958.

Registered Voters: 16, 623

**Question:** Shall the Town of Bridgewater be allowed to exempt from the provisions of proposition two and one-half, so-called, the amounts required to pay for the Town's allocable share of the bond issued by the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District to pay the costs of a feasibility study for the George H Mitchell Elementary School located at 500 South Street Bridgewater, MA 02324, including all costs incidental and related thereto?

### Question Tally P=Precinct)

	P1	P2	P3	P4	P5	P6	P7	Total
<b>Yes</b>	361	372	287	168	98	164	225	1675
<b>No</b>	56	47	47	29	12	31	61	283
<b>Blank</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total:</b>	417	419	334	197	110	195	286	1958

A true copy, Attest:  
Marilee Kenney Hunt  
Town Clerk

## **Town Reports**

For the Year Ended December 31, 2017

### **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports**

#### **Affordable Housing Trust**

2017 Affordable Housing Trust members: William M. Callahan, Patrick Driscoll, Michael Dutton, Chair, *ex officio*; Nancy Koczela, Joan Neumeister

Please refer to the section Town Manager's Report: Affordable Housing Trust on page 71.

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#### **Agricultural Commission**

2017 Agricultural Commission members: Brian Alves, Chair; David Anderson, Lori Tunewicz-Gavin, Clerk

The Agricultural Commission (Ag Com) began meeting monthly in the first half of 2017. In July, it decided to begin bi-monthly meetings. The less frequent meetings have worked well, and the Commission will continue to meet every-other-month on the odd months. Meetings take place at the Academy Building on the fourth Tuesday at 7:30 PM.

The Ag Com has contacted Abington, Middleborough, Wareham, and other neighboring towns to learn about their Ag Com structures and policies and continues to discuss and refine its own policies and procedures. Currently, complaints are submitted by the public to the Town Manager who relays them to the Ag Com for discussion at its next meeting.

In February 2017, the Ag Com joined the Massachusetts Association of Agricultural Commissions and has participated in their state-wide conference. That membership furthers the Commission's collective knowledge and helps with process streamlining.

The Ag Com deals with many agriculturally-related issues such as: egg handling, raw milk sales, common household pet diseases v. livestock diseases, manure regulations, and the use of sewage sludge on agricultural or residential land. In 2017, it discussed the Supreme Judicial Court's decision regarding roosters. The Commission serves as a resource for Bridgewater citizens.

Brian Alves, whose appointment expired in 2018, was reappointed in 2017 for a three-year term (2020).

Respectfully submitted,  
Brian Alves, Chair

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Assessors, Board of**

2017 Board of Assessors members: Ronald M. Barron, Clerk; Milton Morris, and Scott Rubin, Chair

The Board of Assessors has three members appointed by the Bridgewater Town Manager. Minimum requirements for Board members are established by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the Commissioner of Revenue. All members of the Bridgewater Board must be certified by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

The Board meets as often as necessary to meet the Department's need for review of exemptions, abatements for real estate taxes, monthly reports, and other required signatory duties. Meetings often take place weekly during busy times.

The Board of Assessors wishes to express its thanks to the Chief Assessor, Shelley McCauley, for her dedication day in and day out, and for her capable operation of the Assessor's Office. We also want to thank our Administrative Clerk, Michelle Burgess, for her continued dedicated service to the Department and to the public.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott Rubin, Chair

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### **Cable Advisory Committee**

2017 Cable Advisory Committee members: Eric Christiansen and Joseph Gillis Jr.

The Cable Advisory Committee met once in 2017. The two committee members and Town Administrator Michael Dutton exchanged emails regarding the contract negotiation process. During the one meeting in June, we discussed the overall process and some ideas for the next agreement.

It was agreed to follow processes similar to those in other communities and wait for the proposed new contract prior to scheduling our next meeting. We were informed to expect the documents in early 2018. The current contract is dated May 12, 2008 to May 11, 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joseph Gillis Jr., Chair

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Citizens' Advisory Committee**

2017 Citizens' Advisory Committee members: Keith Buohl, Linda Carp, Michael Flaherty, Sherley Philips, John Sharland, Chair

The Citizens' Advisory Committee is responsible for vetting volunteer candidates for appointment to the 23 Multiple-Member Appointive Bodies (i.e., boards, committees and commissions) that are listed in the Town Code. We are a five-member committee, appointed by the Town Manager and without the requirement of ratification by the Town Council. We welcomed Keith Buohl to the committee this year; he replaced Shawn George after Shawn was elected to the Town Council.

Members of all 23 boards, committees, and commissions are volunteers, in that they receive no compensation. However, they are officials of the Town and thus are sworn in by the Town Clerk before they begin their duties.

The Town Manager's office provides us with applications and resumes from residents who are interested in serving the Town. With these in hand, we contact the applicant for an interview. After the interview, we deliberate and vote on whether to recommend the applicant for appointment to his/her chosen board, committee, or commission (provided there is a seat open). We then prepare a written Recommendation Form, which is forwarded to the Town Manager.

Our committee met twice monthly during 2017 to interview several volunteer applicants. All but one was recommended for appointment to the board, committee, or commission that the person applied for, and in that one case, we arranged for the person to seek appointment to another board that had an opening for an associate member. That appointment was made and ratified by Town Council. Overall, the committee was impressed with the qualifications that each volunteer applicant brought to the table. It is truly heartwarming to see so many people willing to volunteer their time as a way of "giving back" to our community.

At the end of 2017, there were still a few seats to be filled, specifically:

Cable Advisory	1 Vacancy
Conservation Commission	1 Vacancy
Cultural Council	Several vacancies (the council can have from 5 to 22 members per state law)
Elder Affairs Commission	1 Vacancy
Financial Committee	1 Vacancy
Open Space Committee	4 Vacancies
Planning Board	1 Associate Member Vacancy
Veterans' Council	Several Vacancies
Water and Sewer Commissioners	1 Vacancy

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Citizens' Advisory Committee *continued***

The Water and Sewer opening is an interesting one, in that the commission is about to start spending about 4 million dollars to erect a drinking water treatment plant at the High Street well field and to start creating a new well field off Vernon Street. Both projects are badly needed to meet the ever-increasing water demands of our growing Town. They are also going to be spending approximately 31 million-dollar on upgrades to the Wastewater Treatment Plant (Sewer Plant) over the next 10 to 15 years. Chemical engineers, environmental engineers, etc., who live in Town would hopefully consider this volunteer opportunity.

I know that I speak for all members of the Citizens' Advisory Committee when I say that 2017 was another great year for the new form of government in Bridgewater. We are a city by form of government but continue to be called the Town of Bridgewater.

Respectfully submitted,  
John Sharland, Chair

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### **Community Preservation Committee**

2017 Community Preservation Committee members: Harry Bailey Jr., Conservation Committee; Melissa Desjardins, At-Large (Chair); Jean Guarino, Planning Board; Gina Guasconi, Recreation Commission; Kevin James Mandeville, Open Space Committee; Joan Neumeister, Housing Authority; Nicholas Palmeiri, Historic District Commission

In accordance with Massachusetts Statute, Chapter 44B of the Massachusetts General Laws, Bridgewater's Community Preservation Committee (CPC) identifies the Town's community preservation needs, receives proposals, recommends funding for projects to the Town Council, and conducts an annual meeting at which residents share their thoughts/ideas about projects for which the Committee should or should not actively seek funding.

The committee meets monthly on the last Wednesday of the month unless there is no business to conduct. Minutes are available on both the CPC's website ([www.bridgewatercommunitypreservation.org](http://www.bridgewatercommunitypreservation.org)) and the Town web site: (<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/agendacenter>), then scroll to the Community Preservation Committee.

In the two fiscal years covered by the 2017 calendar year, the following Community Preservation Act (CPA) funds were received and allocated:

**Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

**Community Preservation Committee *continued***

<b>FY2017 CPC annual =</b> July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2017		<b>FY 2018 CPC annual =</b> July 1, 2017 to December 31, 2017	
<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$649,165.23</b>	<b>Total Revenue:</b>	<b>\$774,100.25</b>
Town Assessment total	\$535,152.04	Town Assessment total:	\$635,873.00
State Trust Fund match ttl:	\$108,768.00	State Trust Fund match ttl:	\$98,232.00
Interest:	\$5,245.19	Interest:	\$9,995.25
<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$540,338.91</b>	<b>Total Expenditures:</b>	<b>\$675,832.73</b>
Administrative funds:	\$32,073.31	Administrative funds:	\$28,875.00
Affordable Housing:	\$0.00	Affordable Housing:	\$0.00
Historic:	\$18,700.00	Historic:	\$0.00
Open Space/Rec:	\$35,655.60	Open Space/Rec	\$231,542.73
Bond Payments		Bond Payments	
Keith Homestead	\$43,820.00	Keith Homestead:	\$44,090.00
Academy Building		Academy Building	
Restoration Projects	\$428,790.00	Restoration Projects:	\$400,200.00
World War I Memorial:	\$18,700.00	Legion Field Lights:	\$231,000.00
Music Alley:	\$3,975.60	Music Alley:	\$542.73

**Total receipts for Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018: \$1,423,265.25**

**Total spending for Fiscal Years 2017 and 2018: \$1,216,171.64**

One project was recommended to and approved by the Town Council in calendar year 2017:

Legion Park Field Lighting Improvements to the Parks and Recreation Department:  
\$231,000

The bulk of expenses in FY'17 and FY'18 was for the two bonded projects: The Keith Homestead totaling \$87,910 for two years and the Academy Building Restoration totaling \$828,990 for two years.

Respectfully submitted,  
Melissa Desjardins, Chair

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Conant Trust Fund Committee**

2017 Conant Trust Fund Committee members: Harold Estabrook III, Assistant Treasurer; Marie Fahey, Vice-Chair; Michael Levy, Secretary/Clerk; John Sylvia Treasurer; David Wolohojian, Chair

The five-person Conant Trust Fund Committee operates and oversees the activities of the Conant Community Health Center, Inc. (CCHC) and Healthcare Educational Resources, Inc. (HER). The Committee is comprised of five appointed Board members.

The CCHC currently leases space to five tenants:

- Partners HealthCare at Home
- Healthcare Educational Resources
- Sunshine Day Care Center
- Department of Corrections: Employee Assistance Service Unit (EASU)
- Massachusetts State Police: Fire & Explosion Investigation Unit

During 2017, in addition to supporting the CCHC tenants' programs, the Committee hosted a variety of health-related functions and programs for the community including:

- American Red Cross Blood Drives
- American Sign Language Educational Workshops
- Bridgewater Fire Department Supplies and Equipment
- Bridgewater Police Department Supplies and Training
- Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District Training
- The Bridge Center Staff Training
- Massachusetts Department of Developmental Services: Learning and Development
- Massachusetts Association for the Deaf Programs
- Bridgewater Youth Athletic Leagues Training: Softball, Soccer, Baseball, Lacrosse
- Babysitter Training Courses for the Community

2017 completes 27 years of operation for the Conant Community Health Center.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy DeMello, Director, Conant Community Health Center

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### **Conservation Commission**

2017 Conservation Commission members: Harry Bailey, Tina Bianco, Associate Member; Marilyn MacDonald, Chair; Robert Mello, Eileen Prisco, Matthew Stoddard

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Conservation Commission.

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## Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)

### Cultural Council

2017 Cultural Council members: Angela Dimisioris, Kathryn Golden, Mark Oliver, Charles Tarr, Nora Tarr, Chair

#### **Bridgewater Cultural Council Local Guidelines in conjunction with Massachusetts Cultural Council Guidelines:**

- First: Individuals or groups of individuals that reside in the Town of Bridgewater that request support from the Local Cultural Council for projects held at a location in the Town of Bridgewater.
- Second: Events held in the Town of Bridgewater.
- Third: Other events held in local, surrounding communities or communities where residents of Bridgewater would likely attend, or participate in, with no additional cost or expense to attend (free events).
- Fourth: Other events held in local, surrounding communities or communities where residents of Bridgewater would likely attend or participate in, that might have an additional or nominal fee, cost, or expense required to attend.
- Finally: Other events that demonstrate they are of interest to Bridgewater residents.
- Purpose: The Bridgewater Cultural Council decides by a majority vote of its appointed members to determine the distribution of arts lottery funds or other funds that may be available to it and may conduct other activities to support these efforts on an ongoing basis.

Awarded: \$10,300

Granted: \$14,012

Website: <http://www.mass-culture.org/bridgewater>

Applicant	Project Title	Decision
First Parish Unitarian Universalist Bridgewater	300th Anniversary Events 2016-2017	\$1,550
Bridgewater State University Dept. of Music	North American Saxophone Alliance Region 8 Conference	\$1,000
Fowler, DJ Jeff	Bridgewater Lions Club Classic Car Cruise Nights	\$1,000
Andrew Child	Suburban Summer Theatre Surge	\$1,000
The Arc of Bristol County	Kids on the Block	\$650
Eversley, Jamaal	Smells Like Teen Spirit Scholarship and Exhibition	\$519
Soule Homestead Education Center	Harvest Fair & Joe Davies Folk Festival	\$500
Junior Music Boosters	Music In The Parks and The Great East Festivals	\$500

**Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

**Cultural Council** *continued*

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Project Title</b>	<b>Decision</b>
Camerata, Mayflower	Handel's "Messiah" (2 performances)	\$500
Natural Resources Trust of Easton	NRT Celebrates Local Music 44th Annual Harvest	\$500
Kunkel, Henry	Memories Are What We Wear	\$500
B-R Music Boosters	Great East Music Festival	\$500
Maichack, Gregory	Pastel Paint the 45-Million-Dollar Flower	\$485
Root, John	Majesty and Mystery of Crop Circles	\$433
Lappen, Henry	Henry the Juggler Performance	\$425
Lang, Bryson	Comedy-Juggler Bryson Lang	\$425
Harcovitz, Ruth	Songs of World War II	\$400
SE Massachusetts Pine Barrens Alliance	Pine Fest: A Pine Barrens Multicultural Festival	\$400
Fuller Craft Museum	[SENSE]ation Days	\$350
Peterson, Lennie	The Art(s) of the Imagination!	\$350
Peterson, Lennie	The Art(s) of the Imagination!	\$350
Peterson, Lennie	The Art(s) of the Imagination!	\$350
Fuller Craft Museum	artKitchen Performance Series	\$300
Brockton Symphony Orchestra	Symphonic Spirituals	\$300
Rull, Tommy	A Musical Journey Through The Years	\$275
Ousamequin Club of Bridgewater	Concert with Tom Madden	\$150
Ousamequin Club of Bridgewater	Making holiday cards and favor holder	\$150
Ousamequin Club of Bridgewater	Gary Hylander on "John and Abigail"	\$150

Respectfully submitted,  
Nora Tarr

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Design Review Committee**

2017 Design Review Committee members: Master Plan Rep, Chair, *ex officio*; Planning Board Rep, *ex officio*; Zoning Board of Appeals, *ex officio*

This is an “as needed” *ad hoc* committee with appointments by Planning Board when a development arises in the East or the West Gateway Districts. Authorized by zoning by-law 3.34.1. The committee did not meet in calendar year 2017.

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### **Disability Commission**

2017 Disability Commission members: David Frim, Clerk; Henry Goldsmith, Anna Nakouzi, Leslie Reed, Chair; Bethany Rocha

The members of the Bridgewater Disability Commission met and maintained contact with Jeff Dougan, Assistant Director for Community Services at the Massachusetts Office on Disability to, firstly, develop a Mission Statement for the Commission and, more importantly, to focus the Commission in a direction that would prove of benefit to people with disabilities in the Town of Bridgewater.

Several members of the Disability Commission attended an Accessibility Seminar, held locally, to improve knowledge and understanding of the complex rules and regulations each town faces to achieve compliance.

The Bridgewater Disability Commission conducted monthly meetings open to the public on the second Wednesday of the month at 2:00 p.m. The location is the second floor of the Academy Building. Several townspeople attended meetings, and we have worked hard to build our reputation and residents’ knowledge of our existence.

The Bridgewater Disability Commission conducted an introductory open meeting at the Bridgewater Senior Center to introduce themselves to residents, opening up dialogue and interaction with the community, and in this case, Bridgewater's senior population.

The Commission worked diligently in 2017 to not only introduce ourselves to the community at large, but to build a solid direction and footing in the community which would be utilized to improve knowledge of the programs and services that are available for people with disabilities.

Respectfully submitted,  
David Frim, Clerk

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Elder Affairs Commission**

2017 Elder Affairs Commission members: Sandra Alley, Nicholas Bagas, Bridget (Pat) Boyle, Peter Caratelli, Joan Colombo, Robert Coolen, Chair; Victor Delmonte, David Frim, Gloria Lemieux, Associate; Diane Roza

The year 2017 was an exciting time for members of the Commission as we finally were able to see the results of the renovation project for the kitchen and restrooms at the Senior Center. Commission members had been trying for years to obtain approval to expend some of the “Hunt School” funds for necessary building renovations. There are still items to be attended to before that project will be complete.

The Commission worked constantly with Elder Affairs Director Lorraine Carrozza, her staff, and volunteers to ensure that programs, classes, and special events continued during renovations.

Among the programs housed at the Senior Center are Health Services, which includes blood pressure monitoring, glucose screenings and other services, and Meals on Wheels. Assorted classes and activities are held on a regular basis, and many clubs and organizations use the Center for meetings and special events. All this activity necessitates maintenance of the building and grounds. We are working with Town Manager Michael Dutton to address these issues.

Much of the Center’s financing comes from grants, such as the Formula Grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs and a Howard Foundation grant. Thanks to the generosity of a local benefactor and Bridgewater State University, our Seniors have been able to attend assorted programs and activities, such as plays, the Boston Pops, Boston Harbor trips, and flower shows.

The success of the Center would not be possible without the efforts of the volunteers who box and deliver Meals on Wheels, cook the meals for congregate lunches, answer phones, help with cleanup after events, and always step up when and where needed.

This year we have lost two very special volunteers. Elder Affairs Commission (EAC) Chair Bob Coolen served on the Council on Aging /EAC for many years. Bill Pincoloni worked with the Painters for many years. Both men contributed so much to all our projects; we miss them.

The members of the Commission wish to thank the Director and her staff for all their hard work and dedication to our seniors. Lorraine Carrozza, Joanne Caratelli, Stephani Godfrey, Kathy Hayes, Karen Kelleher, and Ken Pimental, thank you for always doing so much more.

Respectfully submitted,  
Bridget Boyle, for Robert Coolen, deceased December 2017

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Energy Committee**

2017 Energy Committee members: Kevin Bligh, Thomas Hall, Carlton Hunt, Chair

The Energy Committee (EC) is a standing advisory committee to the Town. Carlton Hunt and Thomas Hall continued as appointed members and welcomed Kevin Bligh as the third member in late 2017. Dr. Hunt continued as the Chair. The committee meets in the Academy Building on the first Thursday of the month following the close of a quarter.

We thank Lisa Sullivan for her continued administration of the Green Communities effort and grant applications. We wish her great success in her new adventure with the Old Colony Planning Council.

The Town continued its success with Green Communities Grant awards. The 2017 application for competitive Green Community grant funds resulted in a \$192.5K award to reduce energy consumption in the Town Hall, Olde Scotland Links Golf Course, DPW/Highway Dept, Public Library, and Senior Center. Each of these projects was completed on schedule in 2017.

The 2017 Annual Green Communities report was prepared by Lisa Sullivan and Carlton Hunt; the report was submitted in early December 2017. The Committee commends Lisa for her diligence and professionalism.

The grant awards for the Green Communities grants (~\$797.6K) combined with National Grid's (NGRID) incentives (~\$185K) brings the total funding received through Green Communities to ~\$982.7K. The resulting energy reductions are estimated to reduce energy costs by ~\$132,000 per year.

The pursuit of the aggregated energy opportunity for the Town's citizens, first discussed in 2016, was tabled to 2019. Facilitation of solar field development on Town-owned land remains a priority of the EC, as does deployment of alternative energy opportunities at the Olde Scotland Links Golf Course. The committee plans to explore a zoning ordinance for small to moderate wind energy systems in 2018.

The Town continued to work down the NGRID credits backlog in 2017. As of December 2017, only 210 kWh credits remained from the backlog identified in 2016. The committee continued its work with the Town's Finance Department to track the percentage of the Town's electrical energy consumption supplied by the Marina Solar Field and the amount of energy cost avoided through the purchase of solar energy. Data from the Massachusetts Energy Initiative (MEI) database and the Town's Financial Department show that the cumulative percent of the electrical power supplied by the Marina Solar Field was ~77 % of the Town's total use since August 2015. The Town continues to realize a significant rate reduction (~23%) in the electrical supply (\$0.1114/kWh (solar) vs ~\$14.3/kWh provided through our Constellations competitive supply rate from the National Grid

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Energy Committee *continued***

The Energy Committee will continue to monitor the energy savings gained through the 2017 Green Community competitive grant. We look forward to reporting additional reductions in the Town's energy consumption in 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D., EC Chair

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### **Financial Committee**

2017 Financial Committee members: Kenneth Barnard, George Haley, Anthony Hebert, Eric Langone, Chair; Michael Mainvielle, Eric Marchetti, Gerald Muller, Robert Rees, Nathan Schofield

The Bridgewater Finance Committee derives its charge from two sources: The Bridgewater Charter (April 24, 2010) and the Bridgewater Administrative Code (February 27, 2017). References to the authorities and responsibilities of the Finance Committee are cited in the highlighted areas below.

#### **From the Town Charter**

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/DocumentCenter/View/353/Bridgewater-Home-Rule-Charter-PDF?bidId=>

The finance committee shall carry out its duties in accordance with the provisions of general law, this charter and by-law and it shall have regular and free access and inspection rights to all books and accounts of any town department or office. The committee shall carefully examine all budget and appropriations proposals and shall issue its review thereon before consideration, debate and vote by the town council.

#### **From the Administrative Code**

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/DocumentCenter/View/1128/Town-of-Bridgewater-Administrative-Code-as-of-03-30-2018?bidId=>

Section 6-1. Annual Budget Policy The council president shall call a joint meeting of the town council, the regional school committee chairman, or his designee, the finance committee, the town manager and any other committee established for the budget process, before the commencement of the budget process to review the financial condition of the town, revenue and expenditure forecasts and other relevant information in order to develop a coordinated budget.

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Financial Committee *continued***

- (d) Transfer of Appropriations - At any time during or before the fiscal year, the town manager, with concurrence from the finance committee and the town council, may transfer up to a maximum of \$25,000 of the unencumbered appropriation balance from 1 department, fund, service, strategy or organizational unit to the appropriation for other departments or organizational units or a new appropriation and shall report the transfers to the town council in writing within a 14-day period. The town manager may also, with concurrence from the finance committee and town council, transfer funds among line items within a department, fund, service, strategy or organizational unit and shall report the transfers to the town council in writing within a 14-day period.

Section 6-7. Long Term Financial Forecast (a) The town manager shall annually prepare a 5-year financial forecast of town revenue, expenditures and the general financial condition of the town. The forecast shall include, but not be limited to: (1) an identification of factors which will impact on the financial condition of the town; (2) revenue and expenditure trends; and (3) potential sources of new or expanded revenues and any long or short-term actions which may be taken that may enhance the financial condition of the town. The forecast shall be submitted to the town council and finance committee and shall be available to the public for inspection. The long-term financial forecast shall be published on the town's website and when updates occur, they shall be posted in a timely manner.

### **Section 6-9. Financial Committee**

- (a) There shall be a finance committee consisting of 9 members, appointed each for a 3-year staggered term, the members of which shall be appointed as follows: 3 members by the town manager, 3 members by the town council and 3 members by the elected town clerk. The finance committee shall report its recommendations on finance related matters before the town council, in writing, at least 10 days before a scheduled town council meeting. Before preparing its recommendations, the finance committee shall hold 1 or more public meetings to permit discussion of all finance matters before the town council, except those matters subject to public hearings by other multiple-member town bodies and not containing appropriations. The finance committee shall have such additional powers and duties as may be provided by the General Laws, by this charter or by by-law.
- (b) The finance committee, town accountant and town treasurer-collector shall support the overall budget process. The town accountant and town treasurer-collector shall have ex-officio membership, without voting rights on the committee. The finance committee shall carry out its duties in accordance with the provisions of general law, this charter and by-law and it shall have regular and free access and inspection rights to all books and accounts of any town department or office. The committee shall carefully examine all budget and appropriations proposals and shall issue its review thereon before consideration, debate and vote by the town council.

## Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)

### Financial Committee *continued*

Before presentation to the Town Council, the Finance Committee must approve the budget, expenditures and each fiscal appropriation. Thus, readers may refer to the fiscal legislation passed by the Town Council in 2017, beginning on page 97, to see 2017's recommendations of the Finance Committee as acted upon by the Town Council.

Respectfully submitted,  
Eric Langone, Chair

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### Fishery Committee (formerly Town River Fisheries)

2017 TRFC Committee members: Rick Benton, Secretary; Skip Copeland, John Cruz, Harold Estabrook, Chair; Robert Hanson, Donald MacDonald, James Sniger, James Souza

The joint Town River Fishery Committee (TRFC) was established in 1994 by the towns of West Bridgewater and Bridgewater to protect and restore the diadromous river herring population, which is a historic natural resource of the Town River. Whereas the Town River is a major tributary to the Taunton River, the formation of the TRFC facilitates the stated goals of the local *Open Space and Recreation Plans and the Wild and Scenic Taunton River Stewardship Council*. The TRFC is a sub-department of Parks and Recreation in the Town of Bridgewater and is under the Department of Conservation, Preservation and Recreation in the Town of West Bridgewater.

By statute, the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game, Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) is responsible for securing the safe and efficient passage of diadromous fish such as river herring. The DMF works cooperatively with communities in the discharge of their stewardship of this fishery. The DMF offers legal, technical, and substantive support to the fishery committees of these communities to achieve the goal of maintaining this fishery. In 2006, the National Marine Fisheries Service designated both alewives and blueback herring as species of special concern. Subsequently, DMF banned the harvest and possession of river herring until further notice and established the Diadromous Fish Project to facilitate the recovery of this fishery.

In compliance with the DMF's *Operations and Management Plan for Herring in the Town River*, the TRFC continues to oversee the operation, maintenance, and repair of the fishways at both the Bridgewater High Street Iron Works and the West Bridgewater War Memorial Park sites on an annual basis. During the spring run, a fish counter is installed and maintained at the High Street Iron Works fish ladder. Water levels at both locations are monitored and measured throughout the year to ensure the unobstructed upstream passage of adult herring in the spring and downstream passage of juvenile herring in the fall. In addition, with authorization of the respective Conservation Commissions of both towns, potential obstructions to fish passage in the river itself are monitored and removed as warranted.



## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Fishery Committee** *continued*

The TRFC is pleased to report that the fish counter recorded the passage of 10,450 herring at the High Street Iron Works site during the spring run of 2017. This represented a significant increase of 6,850 (+190%) over the previous year. The increase in the count may have been, in part, due to the repair of the fishway diverter dam during the low water summer months by members of the TRFC.

Due to the general deterioration of the aging Iron Works dam and fishway, the DMF and the TRFC, in cooperation with the dam's owner, have begun to investigate the possibility of the dam's repair or removal. An impact study of the flood risks associated with dam failure, environmental concerns, and prospects for unimpeded fish passage is currently underway.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rick Benton, Secretary

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### **Golf Advisory Committee**

2017 Golf Advisory Committee members: James Campbell, Daniel Mahoney, Robert McDonough, Patrick Montagano, John Muir, Peter Nash, William Nowlin, Dennis Weingartner

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Golf Advisory Committee. Please refer to the Parks and Recreation Report on page 59.

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### **Health, Board of**

2017 Board of Health (BOH) members: Brian Penney, Benjamin S. Poinier, and John Sharland

The Administrative Code removed requirements for the BOH to meet monthly; it now meets as needed. The BOH met twice in 2017: October 18 and November 15.

In June 2017, Chair Brian Penney resigned after 8 years of service. Ben Poinier was then nominated and elected Chair and John Sharland Vice-Chair. John Sharland resigned in December 2017.

The BOH will be restructured to meet its definition in the Administrative Code.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Keane, Health Department

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## Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)

### Historic District Commission

2017 Historic District Commission members: Marie Benoit, Judith Gabriel, James Kirkcaldy, Nicholas Palmieri, Nancy Sarno, William Smith, Chair

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Historic District Commission.

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### Historical Commission

2017 Historical Commission members: Sharon (Sheri) Anderson, Charles Mangio, David R. Moore, Chair; Madeline Moore, Robert B. Wood, Vice-Chair

The Bridgewater Historical Commission meets the third Tuesday of each month in the Bridgewater Public Library Historical Room. We work closely with the Old Bridgewater Historical Society.

This year the commission has been charged with the implementation of the **Demolition Delay Bylaw**. All structures over 75 years old must be reviewed by the commission. We attempt to encourage alternatives to destruction of Bridgewater's older structures. Projects in this category are referred to us by the Building Commissioner's Office for review at a public meeting of the commission.

The commission has also been discussing projects for future preservation. This includes physical items and video recorded accounts of Bridgewater's past. One of the greatest gaps in our Town's history is the recent past, the last 75 years. We strongly encourage folks to contact the commission when they come across items from any past era. We would be more than happy to have them copied if possible.

The commission is concerned about the storage of materials that have been donated to the Town through the library. The Historical Room has its limits and is generally not readily accessible to patrons. We hope that in the future we will have a larger space to make it easier to access this resource.

Finally, the commission is concerned about the future of the Stone Building at Ironworks Park, the last remaining building of the once massive iron foundry and rolling mill in Town.

Respectfully submitted,  
David R. Moore, Chair

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Housing Authority**

2017 Housing Authority members: Louis Avitable, Nicholas Bagas, Vice-Chair; Lorraine Carrozza, Joan Neumeister, Chair, (Governor's Appointee); Martha Shionis, Treasurer; Judith Wilson

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Housing Authority.

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### **Housing Partnership**

The Housing Partnership has not been convened in 2017.

Please refer to the section Town Manager: Housing Partnership on page 72.

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### **Marijuana *ad hoc* Committee**

2017 Marijuana *ad hoc* Committee members: Linda Carp, Elizabeth (Betsy) Chouinard, Eric Desrochers, Edward (Ted) Haley, Chair; Patricia Neary, Karen Peabody, Peter Robillard, Matthew Rushton, Irving Smith

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Marijuana *ad hoc* Committee.

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### **Master Plan Committee**

2017 Master Plan committee members: Carlton Hunt, Chair; Thomas Hall

The Master Plan Committee (MPC), is a standing advisory committee to the Town. Carlton D. Hunt and Thomas Hall continued as appointed members. Dr. Hunt was named Chair. A secretary was not named pending appointment of a third member. The MPC invited Kevin Mandeville, the sole appointee to the Open Space Committee (OSC), to engage with the MPC to support finalization of the Open Space Plan in progress as of the end of the year.

The MPC is pleased that the Open Space Plan and Housing Production Plan were finalized in 2017.

The MPC encouraged the Community and Economic Development (CED) Director and Town Manager to develop and publish a strategic plan for economic development. No specific actions were taken regarding this recommendation, as other strategic planning efforts were being considered by the Town Council and Town Manager.

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Master Plan Committee** *continued*

Downtown revitalization continued as a major focus of the MPC in 2017. To encourage progress, the MPC facilitated a brainstorming session in early 2017 on downtown revitalization. Representatives from Bridgewater State University (BSU), the Town's Executive Office, Town Councilors, boards, commissions, and citizens participated. The near- and mid-term actionable items identified include:

1. Create better signage for the municipal lot—including clear/consistent time limits
2. Clean and re-stripe the municipal lot
3. Maintain a clean, neat downtown appearance—including down Main Street, Bedford Street, South Street, Plymouth Street, Summer Street and Broad Street, where litter is a continual problem
4. Consider parking fees
5. Examine Arlington, MA fee process for filling empty commercial space
6. Design review guidelines
7. Assess student climate—i.e., what do they want from the downtown area
8. Contemplate a budget for downtown improvements
9. Demonstrate a visible Town commitment to downtown
10. Restart the Citizens' Downtown Advisory Committee
11. Consider the Beverly, MA model of creating a list of desirable businesses then asking banks to donate to a fund which would pay the first year's rent for any of those new businesses

We thank a citizens' initiative and Noonan Waste Management for organizing and completing a town-wide street clean up.

Subsequent to the brainstorming session, the MPC contemplated progress on downtown revitalization at each meeting. Lack of progress motivated the committee to motion that the Town Manager form an ad hoc Downtown Revitalization Committee to advise him on implementation of the 2014 Downtown Revitalization Plan. The committee's motion suggested that the appointees be drawn from a cross section of individuals knowledgeable with public safety, traffic, street design, business development, marketing, landscaping, and redevelopment. Inclusion of a BSU planner was encouraged. The Town Manager indicated his support for such a committee and committed to appoint one in 2018. Based on these discussions, the Chair developed a draft workplan to organize the process and assist any considerations going forward.

The MPC considered the need to develop an inclusionary zoning ordinance to ensure affordable housing does not fall below the State's 10 percent minimum affordable housing goal. The Committee, via a formal vote, encouraged the Town to develop and pass an inclusionary zoning ordinance. The committee subsequently reviewed a working draft developed by the CED Director. To support the effort, the Chair developed a side-by-side table comparing the content of the working draft to inclusionary zoning from two other municipalities. Following the departure of the CED Director in the Fall, the Chair, with the approval of the Town Manager, drafted a comprehensive inclusionary zoning ordinance

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Master Plan Committee** *continued*

for Executive Office and Planning Board consideration. Action on the revision was pending at the end of the year.

The MPC supported the Executive Office's concept for full review and update of our zoning ordinances. The MPC supported the proposed scope including examination of current zoning, possible revisions to the zoning boundaries and allowable uses, and general updates to content to modernize the zoning.

The MPC reviewed proposals for a Master Licensing Agreement and potential revenue stream to the Town submitted by Transit X for an innovative, first-of-its kind, rapid aerial transit concept. The committee reached a consensus that it was time for the Town Manager to move the proposed project forward and formally recommended that the Town negotiate an agreement with Transit X. A subsequent discussion between the Chair and Town Manager determined that the Town would hold action on this proposal to ensure proper processes are followed, including development and passage of air rights zoning followed by a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit concepts for rapid transit that would make use of the air rights zoning.

The MPC hopes that 2018 will bring measurable progress towards downtown revitalization, effect a comprehensive strategy to increase commercial properties and businesses, and make substantial progress on the actions identified in the 2014 Master Plan. As noted last year, we encourage comprehensive update of the Master Plan be undertaken 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D., MPC Chair

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### **Open Space Committee**

2017 Open Space committee member: Kevin James Mandeville

With only one member, the Open Space Committee did not meet in 2017. Kevin Mandeville served as the Open Space member of the Community Preservation Committee

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### **Open Space and Recreation Plan *ad hoc* Steering Committee**

The *ad hoc* Open Space and Recreation Plan Steering Committee was appointed in April 2016. The members were: Kitty Doherty, Nunckatessett Greenway & Taunton Wild & Scenic River Study Committee; Gina Guasconi, Recreation Commission, Carlton Hunt, Master Plan Committee; Marilyn MacDonald, Conservation Commission; Kevin James Mandeville, Open Space Committee; Charles Simonds, Parks and Recreation Department Superintendent

The committee served through early 2017, when the final Open Space and Recreation Plan was submitted for Town Council Approval.

The committee worked closely with VHB, the company selected to prepare the plan, the Bridgewater Community & Economic Development Department, Parks and Recreation Department, Conservation Commission, the Open Space and Recreation Committee, and the broader Bridgewater community throughout the planning process.

Periodic coordination meetings were held in the Municipal Office Building and via teleconference calls in 2016 and 2017 to ensure effective communication and to advise during the preparation of the Plan. The document planning process included site visits to significant open space and recreation parcels in Bridgewater. The site visits were guided by Charlie Simonds, Superintendent of the Parks and Recreation Departments, and Carlton Hunt from the *ad hoc* Open Space and Recreation Plan Steering Committee. The consultant reviewed existing studies and reports as they relate to the Town's open space and recreation resources, including the 2009 Open Space and Recreation Plan, the Recreation Needs Assessment completed by VHB in 2015, draft chapters of the ongoing Master Plan Update, and the Town of Bridgewater Conservation Parkland System Histories and Action Plans 2002-2005. VHB incorporated relevant open space and recreation information updated by Jennifer M. Goldson, the Town's prior planning consultant.

The Plan was heavily shaped by public participation through two public forums held to define the community's vision and goals for the Town's open space and recreation resources, and to discuss and prioritize implementation actions for the next seven years. VHB also organized an open space and recreation survey distributed via the Town's website, the Town's social media pages, email lists, and through provision of print copies at Town offices.

The Committee provided editorial and technical comments on the draft plan. The Final Open Space and Recreation Plan was submitted for Town Council acceptance in January 2017. The Town Council accepted the plan on October 3, 2017. The State of Massachusetts is expected to approve the Plan in 2018.

Respectfully submitted,  
Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D.

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Parks and Recreation Commission**

2017 Recreation Commission members: Thomas Arrighi, Daniel Buron, James Campbell, Michael Flaherty, Chair; Gina Guasconi, Vice-Chair

The Recreation Commission is comprised of five members from the Bridgewater community, each of whom serves a five-year term.

The Commission works closely with the Department of Parks and Recreation's Superintendent Charles Simonds, Assistant-Superintendent Ray Wilcox Jr., who oversees daily maintenance of the fields and buildings, and part-time, administrative staff C. Brooke Condon.

The Commission also works with Nancy Wood, a part-time, seasonal employee hired by the Department as Director of the Summer Recreation program. In addition to Nancy, the program averages four counselors working in Summer Recreation.

Other recreational programs are run by dedicated volunteers who donate their time to help the youth of our Town. Most of the programs overseen by the Recreation Commission would not be affordable without the dedicated work of the many volunteers who serve as directors, coaches, and referees, and who generally pitch in as needed. Commissioners and Bridgewater residents are in their debt.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Flaherty, Chair

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### **Planning Board**

2017 Planning Board members: Raymond Ajemian, Vice-Chair; Patrick Driscoll, Chair; Jean C. Guarino, Thomas Hall, Frank Sullivan; Ashley Vincent, Associate Member (Resigned 2017)

The responsibilities of the Planning Board are established by state law and by the Town Administrative Code and Ordinances. They include making a Master Plan for the Town, review of and action on subdivision and approval-not-required plans pursuant to Mass. General Laws Ch. 41, adoption of Subdivision Rules and Regulations for the Town, review of and action on plans pursuant to several zoning bylaws including Open Space Conservation Development, Planned Development District, Mobile Home Elderly Community, Mixed Use in the Central Business District, Bed and Breakfasts, Medical Marijuana Treatment Centers, Commercial Solar and Site Plan Review. The Board also develops and holds public hearings on proposed zoning ordinances and makes recommendations to the Town Council for adoption.

During 2017, the Planning Board took the following action on several types of plans and applications:

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Planning Board *continued***

Site Plan Review approved: 4

- 124 Broad Street – AL Prime Laundromat
- 160 Fireworks Circle - Luongo
- Lakeside Drive – Claremont Companies – Office Building
- Lot 15 Fireworks Circle

Approval-Not-Required Plans endorsed: 7

Special Permits granted: 1

- Oldfield Estates – Modification to Open Space Conservation Development

Earth Removal Permits granted: 1

Subdivisions granted: 4

- Oldfield Estates – Phase I
- Trinity Circle
- Firefly Lane
- Oldfield Estates – Phase II

The Planning Board held joint meetings with the Community and Economic Development Committee (CEDC) on the following Zoning Amendments:

- Elm Street Overlay District
- Repeal Demolition Delay Ordinance
- Declaring Town Owned Buildings for Sale or Lease
- Land Space Requirements – Change the minimum lot area per dwelling unit from 15,000 to 18,500 in Res C
- Amend the Zoning Map to Rezone Easy Street
- Prohibiting the Retail Sale of Marijuana

The Board recommended that the Town Council accept the following streets as public ways: Hartswood Way and Doe Brook Circle.

The Board denied a Special Permit for a Commercial Solar project off Auburn Street.

The Board began its process of updating its Subdivision Rules & Regulations.

The Board thanks member Frank Sullivan, who left the Board this year, for his time and contribution during his service.

The Board would especially like to acknowledge the dedication and professionalism of our support staff, Leslie Dorr.



## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Planning Board** *continued*

The Board would also like to thank members of the public for their participation and input at our many meetings. The input is very valuable to Board members during deliberations. It improves the process and helps us in reaching our decisions.

Respectfully submitted,  
Patrick Driscoll, Chair

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### **Registrars of Voters, Board of**

2017 Board of Registrars members: Merry H. Boegner, Joseph Gillis Jr., Marilee Kenney Hunt, Chair, *ex officio*; Shawn P. Mackinaw

In Bridgewater, the Board of Registrars of Voters consists of three (3) persons and the elected Town Clerk supported by a full-time assistant, Christine Nemes. The partisan, political balance on the Board is evenly split. Thus, depending on the Town Clerk's political affiliation, of the other three (3) members two are nominees from the Town Committee with which the Town Clerk would not be affiliated and one (1) is nominated by the Committee with which the Town Clerk could be affiliated. All members serve three (3) year terms.

Registrars must:

- Be a registered voter in Bridgewater unless regularly employed by the registrars: M.G.L. ch 51 § 25.
- Hold no other office in Bridgewater and.
- Swear to an oath to faithfully perform the duties of registrar. M.G.L. c. 51 § 23.

With fulltime administrative support from Christine Nemes, members of the Board of Registrars of Voters and the Town Clerk's Office perform or oversee the following duties as required for a city without a board of election commissioners or an election commissioner (MGL 51 §15):

- Maintain accurate lists of registered voters in Bridgewater
- Conduct elections
- Accept nomination papers
- Certify initiative or referendum petitions
- Oversee voter registration
- Process absentee voter applications
- Process address and party changes
- Maintain and test voting equipment
- Prepare and publish listing of residents

## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Registrars of Voters, Board of *continued***

- Tally election results
- Hear complaints of illegal or incorrect registration
- Conduct election recounts (when necessary)
- Conduct an annual census

In 2017, the Registrars and Town Clerk's office conducted two elections: The Annual Town Election on April 22, 2017 and the Special Town Election on June 10, 2017. The results of those elections are found elsewhere in this report.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilee Kenney Hunt, Chair

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### **S.A.V.E. Committee (Senior Associates Volunteer Experience)**

2017 SAVE Committee members: Paula Bracken, SEIU Representative, Chair, *ex officio*; Lorraine Carrozza, Director of Elder Affairs, Secretary, *ex officio*; Vale Sime, President (Resigned May 2017)

For the year, 2017 there were 10 applications submitted. Seven (7) seniors participated, volunteering in four (4) Town Departments (Assessors, Elder Affairs, Police, and Town Clerk) for a total of 786.5 volunteer hours.

Respectfully submitted,  
Paula Bracken, SEIU

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### **School Building *ad hoc* Committee**

2017 School Building *ad hoc* Committee members: Michael Bennett, Malcolm J. Benvie, Gerald Chipman, Chair; Melissa Desjardins, Patrick Driscoll, Timothy Fitzgibbons, Paul Fox Jr., John Gerrish, Lillian Holbrook, Danielle Jones, Eric Langone, Heidi Letendre, Kathleen A. Macedo, Joanne Mulcahey, Lisa Ohman, James Perry, Ryan T. Powers, William A. Rowan, Renee Rushton, Lawrence Silva, Derek Swenson, Carla Thomas, Scott Wauchope

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the School Building *ad hoc* Committee.

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## **Board, Committee, and Commission Reports (continued)**

### **Transportation Committee**

2017 Transportation Committee members: Christopher Delmonte, Chief of Police, *ex officio*; Ronald Ladue, Roadways Superintendent, *ex officio*; Michael Levy, Chair; Thomas Levy, Fire Chief, *ex officio*

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Transportation Committee.

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### **Veterans' Council**

2017 Veterans' Council members: Dennise Caratazzola, Charles Chisholm, James D. Dolan, 2<sup>nd</sup> Chair; Pauline Grenier, Secretary; William LaBossiere, Ronald N. Lembo, Kevin Marshall, Luigi Primavera, Chair; Carl Soderbom, Edmund Spencer, Roderick K. Walsh, *ex officio*

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Veterans' Council.

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### **Water and Sewer Board**

2017 Water and Sewer Board members: Robert Iafrate and Darryl Vacci.

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Water and Sewer Board.

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### **Zoning Board of Appeals**

2017 Zoning Board of Appeals members: Anthony Aveni Jr., Chair after Andre Bissonnette's resignation; Andre Bissonnette, Chair; Gerald Chipman, Brian Heath, Associate; Michael Mainvielle

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by the Zoning Board of Appeals.

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# Elected Town Official Reports

## Public Library Trustees, Board of

This past year was a great year for the Library. The Trustees worked with the Director to provide the best service to the community. At the same time, we worked to improve our facilities to better accommodate the community.

The Trustees would like to thank all those who helped to make the basement meeting room improvements and heating system updates possible. The Board is committed to working with the Director and Staff to continue to expand the service provided by the Library and accommodating the needs of the Community.

We are grateful for all your support, hard work, and commitment to the Town of Bridgewater.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laura McAlinden, Chair  
Nancy Sarno, Vice-Chair

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## Town Clerk

The Town Clerk's Office was busy and productive in 2017. It generated \$43,685.50 for the Town's general fund, with most funds coming from dog licensing and the sale of birth, marriage and death certificates.

During the year, the following were recorded:

Births:	228	<b>Business</b> (registered locally)	
Deaths:	189	New Business Licenses:	83
Dogs Licensed:	2, 442	Business License Renewals:	95
Marriages:	114	New Business Owners	2

There were two elections conducted in 2017: the Annual Town Election on Saturday, April 22, 2017, and a special Town Election on June 10, 2017 (See "Elections Results" beginning on page 16).

Census forms were mailed to 9,628 households; responses recorded 21,830 citizens. The official 2010 Federal census counted Bridgewater at 26,563. The Town Clerk's office urges heads-of-household to complete census forms for each member of the household to reflect Bridgewater's size. An accurate census count is important because it determines certain state and federal funding amounts.

As of April 2017, 16,573 Bridgewater citizens were registered to vote; 786 voted in the 2017 Annual Town Election (4.7%).

## **Elected Town Official Reports (continued)**

### **Town Clerk *continued***

The 2016 Annual Town Report was published in 2017—Bridgewater’s first Annual Town Report since 2008. The Report was completed through the volunteer efforts of Ms. Rebecca Fleisch Cordeiro, who offered professional-level, organizational, and editorial help. Upon completion of the 2016 Report, Ms. Cordeiro and the Town Clerk turned their efforts to the 2015 “retro-recorded” Annual Town Report. Completion of that work is expected in 2018.

Full time employees Jolie Sprague Martin and Christine Nemes efficiently and competently provided high-quality services to Bridgewater citizens. Jill Silvia volunteered occasional administrative support.

I am deeply appreciative of and dependent upon the excellent work of such dedicated co-workers. We all take pride in offering all Bridgewater citizens the best service possible.

Respectfully submitted,  
Marilee Kenney Hunt, elected Town Clerk

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### **Town Council**

As a result of the Annual Town Election, we welcome Shawn George, new Councilor for District 3, to the Town Council. District 5 Councilor Peter Colombotos and District 6 Councilor William Wood were each reelected to another three-year term. On May 2, 2017, the Council voted to elect District 2 Councilor Timothy Fitzgibbons to Town Council President and Councilor At-Large Edward “Ted” Haley to Vice-President.

On May 9, 2017, the Town Council unanimously approved a balanced, fiscally conservative, and responsible budget for the Fiscal Year 2018.

In 2017, the Council’s Rules and Procedures Committee completed their work considering and recommending changes to the Home Rule Charter as recommended by the Charter Review Committee. On November 21, 2017, the Town Council unanimously voted changes to the Home Rule Charter to be sent to the State for final approval.

On December 5, 2017, District 4 Councilor Dr. Kevin Perry announced he would not be returning to his seat due to his recent move outside District 4. President Fitzgibbons subsequently announced the Council’s intent to fill the vacancy with an interim Councilor appointment.

Notable among legislative matters adopted in 2017 include: several collective bargaining unit and individual contract ratifications, the first set of changes to the Home Rule Charter since its adoption in 2010, and a zoning ordinance prohibiting the retail sale of recreational marijuana. A summary of legislation adopted in 2017 is shown below.

**Elected Town Official Reports (continued)**

**Town Council** *continued*

<b>Legislation Type:</b>	<b>Measures Passed</b>
Ordinances (Total)	9
• <i>Zoning</i>	4
Orders	53
Resolutions	4
Appointments/Reappointments Ratified	53

Respectfully submitted,  
Timothy Fitzgibbons, Town Council President, District 2 Councilor

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# **Town Department Reports**

## **Community & Economic Development:**

### *Director's Report including Economic Development and Planning*

The Community and Economic Development Department (CEDD) consists of Community and Economic Development (including business licensing and affordable housing), Planning, and Zoning. The Department is responsible for much of the permitting, regulation and oversight of land development projects serving both internal and external customers.

The CEDD promotes quality of life and fosters economic opportunity by facilitating a livable Bridgewater, at once vibrant yet resilient. In so doing, the CEDD partners with enterprise, citizens, and local institutions to achieve economic vitality, housing opportunities, safe and efficient transportation networks, and resource protection.

In 2017, the CEDD undertook several projects in an effort to move the Town forward. Howard Stein Hudson was hired as a consultant to work on the downtown pedestrian safety study, a second phase of our Complete Streets Prioritization Plan process. The Department also applied for and was awarded a Mass Downtown Initiative Branding and Wayfinding Grant. The results of that process should be available in early 2019. VHB, a consultant, helped the Town in updating the Open Space and Recreation Plan, and the updated plan was sent to the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs for review and approval.

On the housing front, Old Colony Planning Council helped the Town update our Housing Production Plan. The Department had ongoing discussions with South Shore Habitat for Humanity regarding their interest in working on an affordable housing project in Bridgewater. The Zoning Board of Appeals began hearings on several 40B (affordable housing) applications. Upon approval of those 40B projects, the Town should meet its state-mandated goal of a 10% affordable housing stock.

The Department began the process of creating a paid parking program with the support of Bridgewater State University and the Town Council.

Also, in 2017 the Town continued to be a frontrunner in the Commonwealth's Green Communities program, securing funding to upgrade the HVAC system at the Memorial Building and conduct other activities.

#### **License Renewals Issued in 2017:**

- 51 common victualler licenses (no alcohol)
- auto dealer licenses including (2) Class I, (14) class II, (7) Class III
- taxi license to one vendor
- antiques license to one vendor
- 7 lodging house licenses
- 4 pawn/second-hand gold licenses
- 3 annual entertainment licenses (non-alcohol establishments)
- 5 auto amusements licenses (non-alcohol establishments)

## Town Department Reports (continued)

### Community & Economic Development Director's Report *continued*

Alcohol-Related Establishments License Renewals issued in 2017:

- 16 all alcohol restaurant licenses
- 6 club licenses
- 1 wine and malt restaurant license
- 7 all alcohol package store licenses
- 5 wine and malt package store licenses
- 1 farmer's pouring permit
- 27 common victualler-related licenses with alcohol establishments
- 16 TV and juke box licenses
- 11 entertainment licenses
- 9 auto amusement licenses
- 7 pool table licenses
- 2 Sunday entertainment licenses
- 85 one-day liquor licenses in calendar year

In 2017, the Department saw the departure of two valued employees. We thank Andrew DeIonno and Lisa Sullivan for their years of service and dedication to Bridgewater.

Respectfully submitted,  
Jennifer Burke, Director

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### Com & Eco Dev: Building

Building Department employees: Robert Cabral, Plumbing & Gas Inspector; Ruth Card, Office Administrator; Debra Cronin, Administrative Assistant; Mark Dangoia, On-Call Plumbing & Gas Inspector; Bill McCarthy, On-Call Plumbing & Gas Inspector; David Moore, Sealer of Weights & Measures; Walter Murray, Electrical Inspector; Greg Paul, On-Call Electrical Inspector; and Paul Turner, Local Inspector

Building Permits		Construction Value	Permit Fees
New Commercial Buildings	2		
Commercial permits signs, alterations, etc.	55		
Residential Single Family Dwellings	51		
Residential Duplex Dwellings	2		
Over-55 manufactured homes	21		
Residential additions, alterations, pools, sheds, etc.	553		
<b>Total Building Permits:</b>	<b>684</b>	<b>\$29,264,932</b>	<b>\$374,543</b>



**Town Department Reports (continued)**

**Com & Eco Dev: Building** *continued*

<b>Wiring Permits</b>		
Total Wiring Permits	<b>661</b>	<b>\$97,070</b>
<b>Plumbing Permits</b>		
Total Plumbing Permits	<b>699</b>	<b>\$57,947</b>
<b>Gas Permits</b>		
Total Gas Permits	<b>379</b>	<b>\$22,645</b>
<b>Total Number of Permits</b>	<b>2, 423</b>	
<b>Total Permit Fees</b>		<b>\$553,105</b>

On behalf of the Building Department staff; I would like to thank the townspeople and all Town Departments and Boards for their assistance and cooperation throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Steven R. Solari, Building Commissioner

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**Com & Eco Dev: Conservation**

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by Com & Eco Dev: Conservation.

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**Com & Eco Dev: Economic Development**

Please refer to the Community & Economic Development Director's Report on page 47.

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**Com & Eco Dev: Health**

2017 Health Department office staff: Eric Badger, Health Agent; Laurie Keane, Office Administrator; Connie Dolan, RN, Private Health Care Nurse

In 2017, the Health Department issued 101 disposal works construction permits: 10 permits were for repairs, 42 were for new construction, and 49 systems were upgraded to comply with Title 5 requirements. The Health Department also issued food licenses to 218 food service and retail establishments. Each establishment is inspected once a year by Health Agent Eric Badger to ensure compliance with state and local regulations.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Com & Eco Dev: Health** *continued*

The Health Department processed four WPAT (septic betterment loans) to residents, totaling \$77,851.00. The loan program is available to any resident who currently owns a home with a failed septic system. Loans are not available for homes that are for sale.

The Health Department no longer holds flu clinics. There had been a decline in residents utilizing our flu clinics, primarily due to the availability of vaccines at pharmacy minute clinics.

The Health Department has seen a tremendous increase in our syringe take-back program. Residents are dropping off syringes at the Health Department and not disposing of them with household trash.

We hosted our annual Rabies Clinic at the Highway Barn the first Sunday in May. Thanks to the help of the Bridgewater Veterinary Clinic, 34 pets were given rabies vaccines.

The Board of Health consists of Chair Brian Penney and Members Benjamin S. Poinier & John Sharland. All of us in the Health Department and Transfer Station would like to thank our Chair, Brian Penney, who resigned after 8 years on the Board of Health. Brian worked tirelessly supporting the Health Department and Transfer Station so that they now operate at peak efficiency. He is missed not only due to the countless hours he volunteered for our community, but because of the friend he was to all of us.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Keane, Office Administrator

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### **Com & Eco Dev: Planning**

Please refer to the Community & Economic Development Director's Report on page 47.

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### **Elder Affairs**

The renovations project at the Senior Center finally became a reality in 2017; restrooms and the Senior Center kitchen were completely renovated. Funding for this project came from the Senior Center capital projects account. Following the completion of these renovations, the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department Community Work Crew program supported our request for the interior painting of the building. The crew did a wonderful job painting the Senior Center interior walls, which provided a much needed "uplift."

The population count in 2017 for seniors 60+ was 5,185.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Elder Affairs *continued***

The FY17 Formula Grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs was increased to \$40,860.00. Funds from this grant were used to support a part-time Nutrition position, 50% of the Outreach Coordinator's position, the monthly printing of the "Top of the Hill" senior newsletter, and several other expense items.

Outreach areas of support include but are not limited to: helping with completion of fuel assistance intake forms; dealing with health insurance questions and providing a variety of resource information to meet the needs of older adults. We have seen an increase in participation in the bimonthly Caregiver Support group, which is listed with the Alzheimer's Association. Elder Affairs is also part of the Greater Brockton Area Hoarding Task Force, which meets monthly to address and provide resources for members in the community who are dealing with this difficult issue.

Thanks to the generosity of the 2017 Howard Foundation Grant award in the amount of \$12,000, this agency was able to provide funding to help supplement some of the exercise programs, art instruction, and the many informational and educational programs and social events for our Bridgewater Seniors.

Statistics for the year include the following:

- 9,581 meals on wheels were delivered.
- There were 7,669+ incoming calls to the Senior Center for information and referral and other assistance. This does not include the tracking of incoming emails for information.

The congregate lunch program (in-house lunches two times a week) was suspended for several months due to kitchen renovations.

Veterans' Affairs Officer Roderick Walsh actively assists Veterans and their families throughout the year. Our Community Health Nurse, Connie Dolan, provides blood pressure and glucose screenings and other varied services twice a week.

Ongoing programs at the Center include arthritis exercise, Zumba, painting, quilters, crafters, cribbage, and mah-jongg. Chair yoga returned, and a line dancing program was formed and meets once a week.

The Ousamequin Club, Bridgewater Garden Club, and the TRIAD senior safety program meet monthly.

A Health and Public Safety EXPO, sponsored by TRIAD, was held in October and featured 20+ agencies.

Elder Affairs would like to recognize Fire Chief Thomas Levy and his team of officers, who continue to participate in the "Seniors First" senior outreach program. Special thanks to Police Chief Christopher Delmonte and his officers for sponsoring the annual turkey

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Elder Affairs *continued***

dinner for seniors. Our Public Safety Departments are always proactive and ready to assist us in so many ways throughout the year.

We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated group of volunteers! They continue to assist the Senior Center in so many areas, including organizing and formatting the monthly senior newsletter “Top of the Hill” (thank you Becky!), driving for our meals on wheels program, preparing congregate lunches (Regina Cohen, David Frim, Mary Hyde, and Kathy Wade), hosting monthly WHIST parties (thanks David Gonsalves and volunteers), participating in special events and activities, providing office support, and making friendly visitations.

We were deeply saddened with the passing of longtime volunteers and friends Bill Pincolini and Elder Affairs Commission Chair Robert Coolen.

I would like to thank and recognize Elder Affairs Commission (EAC) Chair Bridget “Pat” Boyle and members of the EAC for their support and guidance throughout the year. Thanks to Town Manager Michael Dutton, Assistant Town Manager Kimberly Williams, and other Town employees for the tremendous job they do daily serving this community. Finally, I owe a great deal of thanks to my staff: Joanne Caratelli, Stephani Godfrey, Kathy Hayes, Karen Kelleher, and Ken Pimental. They are so dedicated and committed each and every day and go above and beyond, ensuring that the quality of life for our seniors and their families is never compromised.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lorraine Carrozza

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### **Financial Services**

The Financial Services Department consists of the Accounting, Assessing, Treasury and Collection Departments. With continuous support and direction from the Town Manager and Assistant Town Manager, the Financial Services Department has successfully put together a team-oriented professional staff. We have established and implemented many procedures, policies, and goals in FY 2017 which has improved significantly the operation and communication of the Financial Services Department.

The Financial Services Department and the Accounting Department continue the core mission, which includes preparing financial statements and schedules, maintaining the general ledger, regularly analyzing and reconciling accounts, tracking accounts payable, issuing payroll, maintaining deduction information, processing invoices for all purchases, keeping all contract and payment records, and closing all financial books at the end of the year.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Financial Services *continued***

I wish to thank and acknowledge the Finance Team members, Laurie Guerrini, Michelle Rota, Laurie Mahoney, and Cindy Callahan in the Accounting Department and Shelley McCauley and Michelle Burgess, in Assessing, for their dedication and support to the goals and mission of the Financial Services Department. A special thanks to Michael Dutton and Kimberly Williams for their continuous support.

This Finance Team has accomplished many goals. We continue to move forward to further capitalize on the many components and elements of our financial software. Transparency and communication continue to be a main focus to internal departments and Bridgewater citizens. We hope that the use of paperless technology has increased our effective communication with staff, officials, residents, and the public in general.

Respectfully submitted,  
Anthony V. Sulmonte, Finance Director

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### **Financial Services: Accounting**

Please see pages 117–121 of the 2017 Financials: Budget Reports.

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### **Financial Services: Assessing**

For the fiscal year 2017, (July 1, 2016–June 30, 2017), the total taxable valuation of the Town of Bridgewater is composed of:

- Residential                \$2,285,434,313
- Commercial              \$194,316,077
- Industrial                 \$79,820,790
- Personal Property        \$89,816,300

**Total Taxable Value        \$2,649,387,480**

Fiscal year 2017 was the state-mandated triennial certification year, commonly referred to as revaluation. Bridgewater property values were analyzed and evaluated, and necessary adjustments made to ensure property values reflected full and fair cash value as of January 1, 2016.

The number of taxable parcels assessed in FY 2017 was 8,439. There were 546 exempt parcels valued at \$437,133,500. The grand total value of the Town of Bridgewater for FY 2017 was \$3,086,520,980.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Financial Services: Assessing** *continued*

The total amount to be raised for fiscal year 2017 was \$60,143,177.59. The total estimated receipts and other revenue sources was \$18,786,239.03. The total raised through taxation (tax levy) was \$41,356,938.56, establishing a tax rate of \$15.61/1000. The Bureau of Accounts certified the tax rate on December 08, 2016, allowing the Assessors to commit the tax roll to the Collector on December 9, 2016.

At the beginning of calendar year 2017, Board of Assessor's Clerk Ronald Barron was appointed to the board for a three-year term. The Assessor's staff wishes to thank Mr. Barron for the great wealth of knowledge he has provided and for his commitment to the office.

Respectfully submitted,  
Shelley McCauley, Chief Assessor

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### **Financial Services: Procurement**

A 2017 Annual Report was not submitted by Financial Services: Procurement.

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### **Financial Services: Treasury**

I wish to thank the residents of the Town for their cooperation as we continue to change the operational procedures in our Department and transition to advanced technology.

The very experienced and knowledgeable staff serve the residents with incredible dedication. They have once again met the challenge of role and responsibility changes as well as new staffing. I wish to thank the following dedicated members of the Treasurer/Collector's Office for their professionalism and support; Angela Chandler, Teresa Gillis, Pamela Sproule, Ann Larracey, and Nancy Wolfson.

In the coming year, there will be considerable emphasis on additional efficiencies within our processes and further implementation of financial software modules. All of these are designed to improve the taxpayers' experience. As always, we remain dedicated to providing excellent customer service to the residents of Bridgewater. We look forward to serving you in the coming year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Scott M. Bois, Treasurer/Collector

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## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Fire: Emergency Management**

Bridgewater's Emergency Management Agency (BEMA) is responsible for the safety of the citizens of Bridgewater in the event of a natural or man-made disaster. BEMA is responsible for coordinating the resources for multiple disciplines related to public safety within our community so the incident commander, during an incident or large-scale event, has the proper resources to mitigate and effectively resolve or control any situation.

Bridgewater has worked to formalize its initiative to regionalize emergency planning with the formation of the Sachem Rock Regional Emergency Planning Zone (SRREPZ). With assistance from the Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency (MEMA), the communities of Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanson, Raynham, West Bridgewater, and Whitman formed a Regional Emergency Planning Committee (REPC). The REPC was officially certified by MEMA in 2016. As an REPC, these seven communities coordinate emergency preparedness initiatives relevant to our region to provide a comprehensive and integrated emergency management system that coordinates regional resources to protect lives, property, and the environment through mitigation, preparedness, response and recovery from all natural and manmade hazards that may impact our communities.

Through the SRREPZ, BEMA remains successful in organizing and developing training for the now regional Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The regional CERT team is now comprised of more than 200 volunteers able to respond and to assist regional first responders at an emergency or planned event. In 2017 we expanded our CERT program through a partnership with Bridgewater State University (BSU). BSU provides training facilities and other resources for the training programs. Several members of the BSU community, including students and staff, have completed the training and are part of the University CERT team and the SRREPZ regional team. Our regional team members are prepared to help themselves and their neighbors if a large-scale event were to occur in Bridgewater.

Our CERT team is operational and has responded to numerous events and emergencies, both in Bridgewater and throughout the region. The SRREPZ Team also supports planned events including the July 4th parade and fireworks, Relay for Life, AutumnFest, and the tri-town Veteran's Day parade. Emergency responses include staffing and operation of local and regional shelters during emergency and weather events. I would like to thank Bridgewater CERT Director Dennise Caratazzola for her efforts in coordinating this wonderful resource. Thank you also to Bridgewater Captain Thomas Luckman for his expertise and training of the volunteer team.

In 2017, Bridgewater launched its first Teen CERT program through a partnership with the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional school district. Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School students are offered the full CERT curriculum and hands-on training in the after-school program. Teen CERT graduates can shadow our CERT team members during responses and events and earn community service credit for their volunteer activities.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Fire: Emergency Management** *continued*

Graduates of the Teen CERT program can continue as campus CERT members in college and as adult CERT members in their community.

The Town of Bridgewater receives a grant each year for \$115,000 for its support of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant's evacuation plan. The grant funds are used to maintain the operation of BEMA. Representatives of BEMA attended MEMA-coordinated monthly meetings, several nuclear safety training events, and mandatory drills during the calendar year.

In 2016, Entergy, the parent company of the Pilgrim Nuclear Power Plant, announced its plan to close the Plant. It is anticipated the Plant will close in the spring of 2019. The grant funds the Town receives from Entergy are contingent upon the Town meeting its obligation to provide services per the contract from Entergy. At the time of this report, it is unknown the extent or timing of ongoing responsibility the host communities will have past the date of Plant closure.

The Town of Bridgewater was selected to host a regional equipment cache site through the Department of Homeland Security. The site, located behind Station 2 on Plymouth Street, was constructed as a non-engineered, steel-framed fabric shelter and became active in 2016. It houses message boards, light towers, and generators for use by communities in the southeast region of the State for emergency or planned use. As host community, Bridgewater is responsible for coordinating the loan of cache resources. The site continues to be very active in facilitating the loan of this equipment throughout southeastern Massachusetts.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Levy, Emergency Management Director, Town of Bridgewater

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### **Fire: Fire Services**

In 2017, the Bridgewater Fire Department responded to more than 6,200 calls for service. The Fire Department responds to an average of 17 calls for service each day.

The list below represents calls for service in 2017.



## Town Department Reports (continued)

### Fire: Fire Services *continued*

2017 Calls for Service			
911 Investigation	36	Assistance	197
Auto Fire	11	Brush Fire	4
Fire Alarm	381	Health & Welfare Check	26
Hazardous Materials (HazMat)	1	Inspections	1,908
Investigation	546	Medical Emergency	2,838
Motor Vehicle Accidents (MVA)	234	Mutual Aid	47
Outside Fire	15	Structure Fire	15
Tech Rescue	1		
Total Calls for Service – 6260			

Significant residential growth in the Town of Bridgewater continues to impact the demand on Department resources. In 2017, the Department experienced an increase in call volume of more than 8.5% over the previous year. Most of these calls were medical emergencies. The volume of medical emergency calls alone increased by 11.5% over the previous year. Because of the increase in medical calls and the length of transport time, the Department now consistently runs three ambulances and often staffs a fourth. In 2017, the Department recognized \$1,708,356 in ambulance receipts—an increase of 10.6% over 2016.

The Department currently operates with 51 members, including the Chief, Deputy Chief, EMS/Training Lieutenant (Emergency Medical Services), and four Duty Groups. Each Duty Group consists of a Captain, a Lieutenant, and 10 firefighters. The majority of our firefighters are certified Paramedics; the remaining firefighters are certified as EMT Intermediate or EMT Basic (Emergency Medical Technician).

Firefighter David Perrault, Captain Raymond Wilcox, Captain Eric Elder, and Deputy John “Jack” Hennessey Jr. retired from the Department in 2017. Each of these men served more than 30 years with the Bridgewater Fire Department. Their retirement resulted in the promotion of several officers within the Department:

- Michael MacDermott was promoted to Deputy Chief
- Thomas Luckman Jr. was appointed Captain on Group 2
- John Schlatz was appointed Captain on Group 3
- Paul Chuilli was appointed Lieutenant on Group 4
- James Leurini was appointed Lieutenant on Group 1

Firefighters Daniel Preach, Neil Harrington, and Jonathan Hart joined the Department in March of 2017, filling positions left vacant by prior retirements.

The Department continues to provide several community outreach services. These services include the SAFE fire prevention education program (Student and Senior Awareness Fire Education). Through this program, fire prevention and safety education are provided through the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School district and at community events. Our senior outreach program, Bridgewater Seniors First, is a partnership with the Office of Elder Affairs. The goals are to promote the safety, well-being, and education of our senior

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Fire: Fire Services** *continued*

population and to make their homes safer. Since the launch of the program in 2015, we have conducted more than 200 home safety visits and twice been nominated for the Educator of the Year award at the Department of Fire Services' Fire & Life Safety Conference. The Fire Department also participates in several community events throughout the year.

I would like to thank the men and women of the Bridgewater Fire Department who continue to protect the citizens of Bridgewater. Their professionalism and dedication to this community are outstanding.

Respectfully submitted,  
Thomas D. Levy, Fire Chief, Town of Bridgewater

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### **Fire: Retirements 2017**

#### **FIREFIGHTER DAVID PERRAULT**

Firefighter David Perrault retired from the Bridgewater Fire Department as Firefighter and EMT (Emergency Medical Technician) on Group 2 in January of 2017 after 30 years of service.

Firefighter Perrault joined the Department in 1985. He was dedicated to the Department and the Bridgewater community. David was very active in the Local 2611 union, serving two terms as its president. He was a member of the Department's first dive team and the tech rescue team.

We wish Firefighter Perrault a happy and healthy retirement with his family.

#### **CAPTAIN RAYMOND WILCOX**

Captain Raymond Wilcox retired from the Bridgewater Fire Department as Captain and EMT on Group 3 in January of 2017 after 32 years of service. He also served as interim Deputy Chief in 2015.

Captain Wilcox joined the Department in 1985. He supervised building maintenance projects for the Fire Department and served as a Department mechanic. He was very active in the community, volunteering his construction skills on many Town projects, including Fire Department projects, the clubhouse at Olde Scotland Links, Recreation Department projects and the construction of Music Alley.

We wish Captain Wilcox a happy and healthy retirement with his family.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Fire: Retirements 2017** *continued*

#### **CAPTAIN ERIC ELDER**

Captain Eric Elder retired from the Bridgewater Fire Department as Captain and Paramedic on Group 2 in June of 2017 after 32 years of service.

Captain Elder joined the Department in 1985. He was one of the first Paramedics on the Bridgewater Fire Department and taught paramedicine throughout the South Shore. Captain Elder was instrumental in the introduction of paramedicine within the Bridgewater Fire Department and served as the Department EMS (Emergency Medical Services) Supervisor.

We wish Captain Elder a happy and healthy retirement with his family.

#### **DEPUTY CHIEF JOHN “JACK” HENNESSEY JR.**

Deputy Fire Chief John “Jack” Hennessey Jr. retired from the Bridgewater Fire Department as Deputy Chief and EMT in June of 2017 after 32 years of service. Prior to his appointment as Deputy Chief, Hennessey served as Captain on Group 4.

Deputy Hennessey joined the Department in 1985. He was instrumental in the training and mentoring of new officers, passing on his knowledge and ensuring their success. Hennessey’s dedication to the Department and its members carries on even after his retirement as he continues to be known as the “father” of the Department.

We wish Deputy Chief Hennessey a happy and healthy retirement with his family.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas D. Levy, Fire Chief, Town of Bridgewater

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## **Parks & Recreation**

The Parks and Recreation Department continues to strive to provide services and activities to the people of Bridgewater. The Department made every effort to continue offering youth programs without an increase to the usage fees, with the hope that all children interested in an activity may participate.

Under the Department’s direction, the Recreation Commissioners and the Golf Commissioners work together to maintain a quality golf course and green space, a source of pride to the townspeople. In addition to various athletic fields throughout Town, the golf course is a major asset, providing both green, open-space and bringing people into Bridgewater.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Parks & Recreation:** *continued*

The Parks and Recreation Department's offerings for children began its spring season with the always-popular Spring Track Program under the direction of Sam Baumgarten, Joseph Gillis, and many volunteers. Without their help that program would not be able to continue. The Summer Recreation Program, under the direction of Nancy Wood, was well attended by children who participated in sports, games, and arts and crafts, went on field trips, and heard guest speakers. In the fall, running was a popular activity with the Fall Cross Country program. With the onset of winter, programs moved indoors with the Biddy Basketball Program, which could not run without countless hours dedicated by each of our many volunteers. The program keeps children involved and active during the winter months. The Department appreciates the cooperation of the school system, which allows use of the gyms at a reduced rate.

In addition to its own programs, the Parks and Recreation Department also supports the Girls Softball League and the Crescent Street Fields, Youth Football at Legion Field, Little League at the Legion Field Complex, and miscellaneous adult leagues wishing to play on our well-maintained fields.

The Parks and Recreation Department would like to publicly thank Brooke Condon for her work providing administrative support to the Department. It would also like to thank all the organizations which donate volunteer hours and lend financial to support to ensure the Department's budget. Without them Bridgewater Recreation would be unable to continue.

Respectfully submitted,  
Charles Simonds, Superintendent of Recreation

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**Cemeteries** (not established in 2017)

**Parks** (not established in 2017)

**Golf** (not established in 2017)

**Recreation** (not established in 2017)

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### **Police: Animal Control and Animal Inspections**

A 2017 Animal Control and Animal Inspections Report was not submitted.

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### **Police: Parking**

Please refer to the Town Manager: Hearings Officer section of this report on page 71.

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## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Police: Police Services**

It is my privilege to present the annual report for the Bridgewater Police Department for the year ending December 31, 2017.

The following personnel currently serve our community:

Lieutenant Thomas J. Schlatz III	Officer Kelly A. Chuilli
Sergeant Robert D. Irving	Officer Joseph J. Parmeggiani
Sergeant Lawrence J. Bresciani	Officer Kevin J. Crowley
Sergeant Thomas G. LaGrasta	Officer Scott R. Hile
Sergeant Willis C. Griffith Jr.	Motorcycle Officer John J. Hennessey III
Detective Sergeant Anne M. Schuster	Officer James M. Coyle
Sergeant Carl H. MacDermott III	Officer Peter J. Balboni Jr.
Detective Joseph M. Demoura	Officer Ryan H. Thayer
Officer Robert A. Fernandes Jr.	Officer Kyle B. Montagano
Court Prosecutor/ Officer Christopher A. Shaw	Officer Matthew R. MacFadzen
Detective Robert J. Bailey	Motorcycle Officer Christopher M. Paze
Motorcycle Officer George M. Zanellato	Officer Andres J. O'Campo
Officer Deane F. Ferioli	School Resource Officer Kevin M. Kearns
Officer Stephen W. McGinn	Officer Ryan P. O'Connell
Officer Matthew J. Lynch	Officer Nicholas L. Chmielinski
Officer Robert F. Gray Jr.	Officer Christopher T. Rondeau
K9 Officer Steven L. Kingsley	Officer Jacob N. Poulin
Officer Lisa M. Mitton	Officer John P. Carr
Officer Clint E. Apaza	Officer Michael E. Clark
Office Administrator Mrs. M. Paula Bracken	Administrative Assistant Mrs. Ann Marie Gill

We continue as active members of the Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council (SEMLEC - 30 cities and towns in southeastern Massachusetts), which operates as a mutual aid collaborative with combined personnel focused on SWAT, Search & Rescue, Marine Unit, Motorcycle Operations, Critical Incident Stress Management team, etc. We currently have officers assigned to the regional SWAT Team and Critical Incident Stress Team. Sgt. Carl MacDermott and Officers Matthew Lynch and John Carr are operators with the SWAT team; Officers Christopher Shaw and Kelly Chuilli are members of the SEMLEC Critical Incident Stress Management team (CISM).

I would like to take this opportunity to specially recognize Sgt. MacDermott for his extraordinary leadership as the SEMLEC SWAT Unit Commander; he officially retired from this position on December 31. His leadership has elevated the professionalism of the team and improved the team's ability to resolve critical incidents peacefully. Sgt. MacDermott is the only officer who has served as a member of the former Bridgewater Police Special Tactics and Training (STAT) team (1980's), the former Satucket Regional Tactical Team (Bridgewater, East Bridgewater, West Bridgewater and Middleborough

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Police: Police Services** *continued*

Police (2000-2010)), and the current Southeastern Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council SWAT team. His leadership and experience, both locally and regionally, have been invaluable for many years.

We remain active members of the regional W.E.B. Major Crimes and Drug Task Force (West and East Bridgewater, Bridgewater, Whitman, and Bridgewater State University Police Departments). This is a well-established and very successful collaborative investigative unit focused on drug distribution and multi-jurisdictional crimes in our area. I would like to thank Officer Matthew Lynch for his efforts as our assigned task force officer.

Our Canine Unit, Officer Steven Kingsley and K9 Papi, completed their third year of service together. K9 Papi is a certified patrol working dog. Officer Kingsley's former partner, twelve-year-old K9 Dunaj (Dunny) was put to rest on May 23<sup>rd</sup>, having served the Department for over ten years. K9 Dunaj was certified as a police patrol working dog cross-trained in narcotics detection. Prior to his formal retirement in 2016, K9 Dunaj was supporting the Department primarily with his drug detection skills. K9 Dunaj, the Department's third police working dog, has served the Department well for many years and will be missed.

Although we only have two marked Harley-Davidson police motorcycles, we currently have three Motorcycle Officers trained for general patrol and special event purposes. They alternate training monthly and are also active members of the SEMLEC Mobile Operations Unit. I would like to thank Officers Jack Hennessey, George Zanellato, and Christopher Paze for their work on many all-weather special events.

Officer Lisa Mitton and Officer Scott Hile were assigned as Proactive Enforcement Officers. Officer Mitton worked evenings and Officer Hile was assigned to daytime hours. Both were tasked with focused traffic and proactive criminal/warrant enforcement. This assignment has been valuable in addressing specific neighborhood problems.

We continue to operate our Citizens Police Academy, a 12-week community education program for Bridgewater residents offered annually in the fall. In addition to those individuals in our 21st class, we have hundreds of previous graduates. I would like to thank Sgt. Thomas LaGrasta, Officer Ryan O'Connell, and Officer Jack Hennessey for coordinating this well-received program. Thanks to all the officers who make the program an overwhelming success every year.

We continue to assign one officer as our designated School Resource Officer. School Resource Officer Kevin Kearns, who has a full-time position in the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District, regularly works with our young people and is a positive role model for students. He also represents the Department at the Plymouth County Drug and Alcohol Resistance Education Summer Program, which annually sponsors twenty (20) 4th and 5th grade Bridgewater students for a week-long camp held annually in July.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Police: Police Services** *continued*

Our Detective Division has again proven valuable in supporting the many investigative demands placed on our Department each year. Their mission is to support uniformed personnel with investigations involving violent crime and death scenes, sexual assaults, drug and weapons offenses, and serious property crimes requiring additional expertise and/or resources. Detectives are also responsible for case follow-up and serve as a primary liaison with other federal and state agencies. I would like to thank Det. Sgt. Anne Schuster, Det. Joseph DeMoura, Det. Robert Bailey, and part-time Det. Peter Balboni for their dedicated work.

We held our 18th annual Bridgewater Police Department Thanksgiving Dinner for Seniors, which serves approximately 160 seniors from the Bridgewater community. I would like to thank all officers, Citizens Police Academy graduates, volunteers, Mr. Gary Boothby of Sodexo at BSU, and Elder Affairs Director Lorraine Carrozza who help make this event an enjoyable experience for everyone involved.

In 2017, we held our 4th annual Bridgewater Police 5K and 1M Kids Fun Run. The race, which starts and finishes at the police station, is held on the last Saturday of September. The race is a very successful community event; proceeds are donated to a select local charity. Our primary charity for 2017 was the Bridgewater 4th of July Committee, which organizes the festivities and fireworks on July 4th. I would like to thank the many police officers and volunteers who make the race possible. I would especially like to recognize the driving force behind the event, Race Director Mrs. Rebekah Caylor.

We received several grants again this year to help the Department's enforcement and educational programs in 2017 including:

- the State 911 Support and Incentive Grant
- the Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) Training Grant
- the Emergency Management Performance Grant (co-recipient)
- the Massachusetts Interlocal Insurance Association (MIIA) Risk Management and Loss Control Grant
- the Justice Assistance Grant
- the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security (EOPSS) Seatbelt Mobilization and Pedestrian Safety Grant
- the Under-Age Drinking Enforcement grant
- funding from the Drunk Driving Trust Fund

Recognizing the Opioid abuse epidemic plaguing our region, all Bridgewater police officers now carry the life-saving opioid antagonist Naloxone (Narcan) on patrol and have used it successfully numerous times on overdose victims. We are also part of several opioid treatment and prevention collaboratives with other police agencies including the Brockton Area Opioid Abuse Collaborative, the Bridging LIVES Coalition (comprised of local officials and the school district), as well as Plymouth County Outreach, incorporating the 28 cities and towns in Plymouth County for incident tracking and follow-up intervention

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Police: Police Services** *continued*

services. I would like to thank Officer Scott Hile for coordinating our proactive participation in these organizations and for his work in recovery follow-ups.

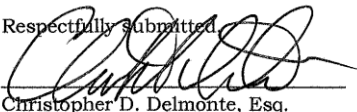
As the local licensing authority, we continue to process License to Carry Firearms and Firearms Identification Cards. We process several hundred applications and background checks during the year. I would like to thank Officers Robert Fernandes and Jacob Poulin for their diligence in performing this important regulatory service to residents.

The Police Department remains the primary 911 public safety answering point and Emergency Medical Dispatch (EMD) for the Town. In addition to traditional wireline calls, we also started accepting wireless direct 911 calls. These calls were formerly routed to a regional center elsewhere in the state before being transferred back locally for police or fire services. With this new technology residents can now dial 911 from their cellular phone, and they will be directly routed to our Department without requiring-transfer. When our officer answers a 911 call, external speakers located throughout the police station (Headquarters at 220 Pleasant Street) and fire station (Headquarters at 15 School Street) immediately broadcast the details of an emergency. This has greatly improved our response time and coordination of personnel. I would like to thank Det. Joseph DeMoura for working as our liaison and quality control officer to the State 911 Department.

I would like to recognize the invaluable contributions of our Executive Officer Lt. Thomas Schlatz, patrol supervisor Sgt. Carl MacDermott, Office Administrator Mrs. Paula Bracken, and Administrative Clerk Mrs. Ann Marie Gill for their administrative work. The success of our Department would not be possible without their contributions as well as the work of all the men and women of the Bridgewater Police Department who commit themselves every day to improving the quality of life for all residents.

I would like to thank the members of the Town Council, Town Manager Michael Dutton, and the community for the very much-appreciated support we receive in this effort every year. Thank you.

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher D. Delmonte, Esq.  
Chief of Police

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### **Public Library**

The Library had a great year in 2017. The staff and community worked together to provide art exhibits, children's programs, and cultural programs for adults. The library showed movies and had numerous guest speakers, lecturers, and performers. The new meeting



## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Public Library *continued***

room in the basement of the library provided extended meeting room use to groups like the Girl Scouts and local Radio Club. This new room allowed groups to meet at the most popular times simultaneously. Over 430 meetings were held throughout the year.

The Library saw increased use of the eight public Internet computers as well as increased circulation of downloadable electronic resources including books, audio, and film.

The Library had a staff of ten and a budget of \$560,380 for 2017. 211 children's programs and 54 adult programs took place, with over 3,540 patrons attending programs. The library's total collection included 111,596 items. In 2017 the library circulated 98,450 items to over 64,500 visitors.

Other improvements included the new heating system that regulates the temperature of the building more efficiently, saving taxpayer dollars. The system turns down the temperature when the building is unoccupied and consumes less energy than the old boiler. This new system was part of the town-wide Green Communities initiative headed by Mr. Carlton Hunt. The initiative included improved lighting at the Library with energy efficient and cost saving lighting controls.

Ellis Landscaping continued their long and dedicated service to the community, keeping the front of the Library beautiful and the lawn mowed, while providing a spring and fall clean up that keeps the grounds looking wonderful.

Robert Wood and David Moore provided historical insight and research assistance to the community in the Historical room, assisting staff with their many years of knowledge and experience about the history of the Town.

The Garden Club decorated the Library during Christmas, as they have for years, providing a sense of Christmas cheer to the Library Staff and patrons. Mary Arnberg also provided a wonderful array of seasonal decorations to the front of the Library, dedicating her own time and expertise as she has for many, many years. We are very appreciative of all the help.

We were also assisted by Mr. Roderick Walsh of Veterans' Services, who always provides the Library with a proper flag; the Department also donated multiple books to the library.

Lorraine Carrozza, Director of the Senior Center, provided the Library with information and schedules of programs at the Senior Center.

We would like to thank the Police Department and multiple police officers who assist us each year keeping the Library a safe place for everyone. We would also like to thank the Fire Department for the assistance provided during the multiple storms and emergencies that happened throughout the year. In addition, we would like to thank the Highway Department who are always there to help us during snow emergencies and to assist us when we have any of the various issues that emerge on the Library grounds.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Public Library** *continued*

We were also greatly assisted this year by Jonas Kazlauskas, who helped us deal with upgrades and provided advice on fixing a few of our numerous water pipe issues.

We would also like to thank the Board of Library Trustees for their work and effort to review, advise, and approve plans regarding the many complex issues the Library faces each year.

The Library is a community center for the people of Bridgewater and is also run with the assistance of many of those in the community on a daily basis. We thank all those who contribute and the many who are not mentioned here but are appreciated nonetheless.

We look forward to 2018 and many years of serving our community.

Respectfully submitted,  
C. Sean Daley, Library Director

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### **Public Works: Roadways**

Once again, the Highway Department starts a new year (2017) grossly understaffed. The Department continues to operate with similar staffing levels to 2007, a year of dramatic layoffs. Although the roadway network continues to grow extensively every year, staff level remains virtually unchanged. Just this year alone, the Town accepted four (4) additional streets. The additional road miles continue to add to the burden of a Department that has not been allowed to grow effectively with the size of the Town.

The Department was able to hire a laborer to fill a slot vacated by an employee who had resigned his position. I would like to welcome Mike Bumpus to the Highway Department.

The aging fleet of equipment continues to sit unaddressed. Capital Funds have been deemed better used elsewhere.

This year's winter season was fairly normal, with average snowfall amounts. The roadways were treated with salt a total of 21 times. Additionally, they were plowed a total of 4 times; all outside snow plow contractors were called in.

The spring and summer seasons once again stretched the Department to its limits with a high volume of resident requests for a multitude of services. The Highway Department fielded 320+ resident phone requests, creating approximately 300 work orders. They also received many emails with requests and complaints. The work orders are prioritized and distributed to staff for repairs, etc.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Public Works: Roadways** *continued*

With State-funded Chapter 90 monies, the Department was able to rebuild or repair a few streets. The projects were as follows:

1. Cherry Street (from Short Street to the Halifax line) – install new drainage \$308,119.55
2. Pine Street – full depth grind and pave \$239,434.78
3. Cedar Street – full depth grind and pave \$30,194.81
4. School Street – full depth grind and pave \$92,440.45
5. Harvard Road, Colby Road, Brown Avenue, Dartmouth Road, Village Gate Drive – level and overlay \$125,154.50
6. Crackseal 21 streets \$101,835.73
7. Double yellow line painting, various streets \$52,595.31

With these funds, the Department was also able to purchase a 2016 dump truck at a cost of \$59,729. However, contacts at the state Department of Transportation (DOT) informed us that going forward, the funds are to be used for road improvements and projects only.

The Forestry Department continues to operate with only one employee. That remains, at the very least, a safety issue. The lone employee utilizes dangerous tools and equipment alone daily. The Town must provide funding for additional employees to maintain tree and brush growth and unsafe tree removal.

The Forestry Department hazardous tree budget is now at \$45,000 to cover both tree trimming and tree removal. The tree removal budget of \$25,000 will be exhausted after two (2) scheduled appointments with the contractor. The office continues to receive calls on a weekly basis to inspect and address potentially hazardous trees.

In closing, the Highway/Forestry Department is in desperate need of an increase in staffing levels and equipment upgrades. We do what we can with what we have. It is a daily struggle to provide even the most basic level of services to the taxpayers of Bridgewater.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ronald Ladue, Roadways Superintendent

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### **Public Works: Sewer**

The Sewer Department, which is an enterprise-funded account operating solely on sewer user fees, handles the day-to-day operation of the Wastewater Treatment Facility located at 100 Morris Avenue, Eight (8) Sewer Pumping Stations throughout the Town, and approximately 42 miles of sewer collection system.

For 2017, the sewer plant treated a total of 369 million gallons. The average flow to the facility was 1.001 million gallons per day (mgd). This number represents 69.5% of the 1.44

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Public Works: Sewer** *continued*

million gallons per day (mgd) design capacity. Septage received at the facility totaled 5.1 million gallons. Once again, no odor complaints were logged for 2017.

#### **The Maintenance Department**

- 50 sewer equipment repairs/replacements were made.

#### **Collection System Summary**

- Sewer connection applications taken out = 43.
- Sewer collection system plug ups = 4.
- Grinder pump problems = 21.
- Sewer line cleanings and inspections = Sewer rehab completed in 2017.

#### **Sewer Planning/Studies Ongoing**

- A National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit was issued in 2016. We have received more stringent limits for phosphorus and nitrogen. The treatment facility upgrade has begun, at a cost of approximately \$31 million dollars, to meet the new limits set by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).
- We continue to work on the comprehensive wastewater management plan. This plan is a road map for the future of the Sewer Department and is to be completed by 2018.
- We anticipate completing sewer regulation updates in 2018.

#### **New Sewer Construction**

- Pearl Street.

For more information about the facility please visit the website at:

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/181/Secondary-Wastewater-Treatment-Facility>

I would like to thank the Commissioners, Office Staff, and the men at the Treatment Facility for their support, dedication, and professionalism.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonas V. Kazlauskas, Superintendent, Bridgewater Water/Sewer Department

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### **Public Works: Solid Waste**

2017 Transfer Station: Transfer Station Superintendent Rick Conroy and Volunteer Harry Bailey.

The Transfer Station is run by Transfer Station Superintendent Rick Conroy.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Public Works: Solid Waste** *continued*

In FY17, 2,065 residents purchased stickers to utilize the facility. Those numbers do not reflect the constant flow of people utilizing one-day stickers. Over the past two years there has been extreme volatility in the trash-recycling industries. To address this, Rick has made changes to keep the current cost structure viable. New signage has been added to assist the Transfer Station customers with these new changes.

Rick Conroy's main objective is to make the Transfer Station safer and more profitable to avoid unnecessary fees.

Respectfully submitted,  
Laurie Keane, Office Administrator

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### **Public Works: Structures & Grounds** **(not established in 2017)**

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### **Public Works: Water**

The Water Department, which is an enterprise-funded account operating solely on water user fees, handles the day-to-day operation of the Carver Pond Treatment Plant, located at Well Field Drive and the Nitrate Plant, located on High Street. There are 10 gravel-packed wells located throughout the Town with approximately 140 miles of water distribution pipes.

For 2017, the water plant produced a total of 586 million gallons. The daily average flow was 2.12 million gallons per day (mgd). The average per capita usage was 43 gal/day.

#### **Water System Summary**

- Number of water accounts = 7,603.
- New connections = 90.
- Water main and service breaks repaired = 20.
- Backflow preventers checked = 374.
- Hydrant replacement/repairs = 2.
- Annual flushing program conducted.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Public Works: Water** *continued*

#### **Water Planning/Studies Ongoing**

- Work on the comprehensive wastewater management plan, which includes a water component for planning, will be completed in 2018. This plan will aid in mapping the future of the Water Department.
- Automated meter reading system installations began town-wide.
- Future High Street Treatment Plant planning continues.

#### **New Water Construction**

- Bridgewater Preserves subdivision.
- Prattown subdivision.
- Old Field Estates.

I would like to thank the Commissioners, Office Staff, and the men of the Water Department for their support, dedication, and professionalism.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonas V. Kazlauskas, Superintendent, Bridgewater Water/Sewer Department

**Editors' Note:** To read the 2017 Bridgewater Water Department Annual Water Quality Report (January 2017-December 2017) PWS ID Number: 4042000, go to the following link:  
<http://www.bridgewaterma.org/documentcenter/view/1467>

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### **Public Works: Water Pollution Control** **(not established in 2017– See Water and/or Sewer)**

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### **Public Works: Water Supply** **(not established in 2017 – See Water and/or Sewer)**

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## **Town Manager: Annual Report**

The Town Manager is appointed by the Town Council as the Town of Bridgewater's chief executive officer per the Home-Rule Charter (Article IV, Sections 4-1, et seq.). In 2017, the Town Manager fully dispensed with the charges given to him by the Council and various directives provided throughout the year. The following is a summary of various matters with which the Town Manager and his staff dealt throughout the year.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: Annual Report** *continued*

The Town Manager's Office continues to work on multiple items and projects going into 2018 which will address the financial, economic, and long-term planning for the Town of Bridgewater. The Town Manager and his team remain committed to making the Town a place where business can thrive, and residents can be proud to call their home.

Items under the Town Manager's authority appear below.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Dutton, Town Manager

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### **Town Manager: Affordable Housing Trust**

For 2017, the Affordable Housing Trust met sporadically throughout the year to discuss various housing matters, including the possibility of inclusionary zoning, a possible Habitat for Humanity build, and disposition of the McElwain School for affordable housing purposes. The Trust also reviewed several proposed MGL c.40B projects, including a large owner-occupied project off Curve Street and a rental project on the Claremont property across from Lake Nippenicket.

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### **Town Manager: Hearings Officer Report**

#### **Hearings Officer Actions**

The Town Manager's duties include those of a Hearings Officer for matters relating to dangerous dogs and parking tickets

#### **Dangerous Dog Hearings:**

Dangerous dog hearings are on an infrequent basis and arise from an appeal by either an aggrieved party or the owner of a dog(s) which have been deemed dangerous by the Animal Control Officer. For calendar year 2017, there was only one hearing requested.

#### **Parking Tickets:**

The Town Manager's office continues to act as the "Hearings Officer" to hear parking ticket appeals. Over 90 appeals were received in 2017. Parking ticket hearings were heard once a month (in 2017, the second Wednesday of each month from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.). A total of 1,345 parking tickets were issued throughout the year.

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## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: Housing Partnership**

The Housing Partnership Committee continued to remain unfilled in 2017. As outlined in the Town Code, the committee is made up of one member from the Affordable Housing Trust, Water & Sewer Commission, and Planning Board. This committee will likely go unpopulated due to the Town about to reach its required 10% affordable housing threshold.

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### **Town Manager: Human Resources Report**

The Town Manager's office, through the Assistant Town Manager, is responsible for all matters related to human resources, including talent retention, hiring, disciplinary action, employee on-boarding, Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) requests, and review of contracts in negotiation. Over the course of the year, the Assistant Town Manager facilitated processes to fill multiple positions including but not limited to: Treasurer-Collector, Assistant Town Accountant, Payroll & Benefits Coordinator, Building Inspector, Water Handler, Police Matron, Golf Course seasonal employees, and several Firefighters.

The Assistant Town Manager also worked with the Finance Department to streamline parts of the Human Resources processes, including on-boarding and administrating employee data. Part of this work included an initial discussion on how to effectively utilize a Human Resources module in the Town's finance management system, MUNIS. The module has not been set up in the system; however, once implemented it will provide much greater efficiency and employee self-help access in order to make changes to health insurance, payroll deductions, etc.

In addition, the Town Manager's office hosted multiple trainings throughout the year for staff on a wide range of work-environment and wellness initiatives. Some of the trainings included annual harassment prevention and enhancing customer service skills. The wellness initiatives included the annual benefits fair in April and a spring yoga program. The Town Manager's office also partnered with the Mayflower Municipal Health Group on several initiatives, including yoga and wellness training programs.

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### **Town Manager: Information Technology Report**

The Town's Information Technology Department (IT) has been busy for several years pursuing the Town Manager's goal of significantly upgrading the Town's information technology capabilities. IT oversees all data networks, firewalls, computer hardware, and network software. Major work on IT infrastructure included but was not limited to: Implementation of new MUNIS software modules, migration of email to cloud-based services, virtualization of Town servers, upgrades to the emergency 911 system, and normal cycling of outdated computer devices. The IT Director also continues to oversee



## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: Information Technology Report** *continued*

the Town website ([www.bridgewaterma.org](http://www.bridgewaterma.org)) along with various social media platforms, including Facebook and Twitter. The Town is looking for ways to actively engage the community through social media and is planning a slow and deliberate process for increasing citizen engagement.

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### **Town Manager: Licensing and Operations**

The Town Manager continued to work with the Town's Finance Team to oversee the FY 2018 Budget Process. The Town Manager also worked in concert with the Bridgewater-Raynham School District and the Massachusetts School Building Authority to begin the process of addressing the closed Mitchell Elementary School by creating and appointing members to the Mitchell School Building Committee. 2017 also saw the start of discussions for roadway infrastructure on Elm Street and to address longstanding parking issues throughout town. In addition, the Town Manager and team leaders worked to address long-term capital needs for departments, with a Five-Year Capital Plan now in development. When finalized, the plan will help guide the financial needs of the departments and help determine infrastructure, equipment, and staffing needs in the future.

In 2017, Town Manager appointed or reappointed fifty-eight (58) resident volunteers to boards, committees or commissions. Volunteerism continues to be impressive in Bridgewater, with plenty of new faces populating Town boards and committees.

The annual business licensing process was moved back to the Town Manager's office toward the end of the calendar year. During that time, the office staff worked to ensure all renewals were received and reviewed for approval by the Town Council in December of 2017. Various yearly and one-day licenses were issued in 2017 including (but not limited to): Alcohol, Entertainment, Second-Hand Dealers, Taxis and Common Victualler licenses. In all, the office issued a total of 262 licenses.

The Town Manager issued several Request for Proposals for contracted work or property disposition in 2017 including the potential rental of the former Town Hall, disposition of the former McElwain School Building, Town building landscaping, and a lease of the town-owned cellular tower at Great Hill.

In 2017 the Town Manager organized the disposition of the McElwain School and issued a Request for Proposals. Despite the heavy marketing and advertisement of the RFP, only one bid was received. It was submitted by the joint venture Capstone Communities and MPZ Development. Their plan is to revitalize the existing historic structure, keeping the exterior intact, and preserving many of the interior elements. In addition, they propose to construct another building towards the rear of the school which will house additional rental units. If accepted and approved, their project would significantly revitalize the Main Street corridor.

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## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017**

Good evening and thank you for either attending or listening to our annual state-of-the-Town address over the BTV airwaves or our website.

More importantly, thank you for giving me the opportunity and challenge of working for a Town with such vitality and volunteerism, with such dedicated employees, and such caring volunteers.

Over four years ago I set out to bring a new culture of professionalism to the Town. I also set out to stabilize our finances and show our taxpayers that every dime they give us is well spent.

I told the Town Council that it would take five years of diligent work to turn the corner, and I am happy to report that today we are a professional organization, our finances are stabilized, and our Town is headed in the right direction.

I would like to begin my portion of tonight's State of the Town address by highlighting areas in which the Town made significant progress throughout 2017, and then lay out my thoughts about our agenda for 2018 and beyond.

2017 was a good year, but a year marked with some sadness.

2017 saw the passing of our Conservation Commission Chair Dick Monteith. He was a reliable and respected leader who was committed to a better Bridgewater. I will miss his calm approach to difficult issues, and his obvious love of teaching.

But 2017 also saw good things. We wished longtime Town attorney Mark Gildea success as a newly appointed Superior Court judge. Mark's work week used to start on Sundays and continued through Saturday... 16 or 18 hour days... 6 or 7 days a week. I suspect his new position allows him just a little more free time.

Since our last gathering, Councilor Kevin Perry had to give up his seat on the Council because he and his family moved to a different precinct. I appreciated Kevin's steady demeanor and thoughtful approach to Town issues, and will miss his free medical advice...

We welcomed several new department heads: Steve Solari joined us as our Building Official early last year. He quickly worked through the backlog of permits and continues to implement a customer friendly approach to his work. Scott Bois joined us as Collector-Treasurer from the Southfield Redevelopment Authority where he ran its financial operations. In his short time, he has already proved to be a valuable team member who brings a deep municipal knowledge and curiosity about municipal finance and government operations. He will join a finance team that we have very methodically built over the past several years.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

Angela Chandler, who joined us as the interim Collector-Treasurer during 2016, is staying on as a consultant to fully implement a number of finance initiatives. During her service as interim, she dug into ongoing problems and made sure we were pointed in the right direction.

We have also recently welcomed Jennifer Burke who steps into the role of Community and Economic Development Director. Jennifer has experience and expertise which will directly benefit our downtown and economic development efforts. I look forward to working closely with her to take our development plans and ideas and turn them into reality.

Finally, I looked inward to fill the position of Assistant Town Manager. Kim Williams has been a steady presence in Bridgewater Town offices for over 20 years. Her dedication to the Bridgewater cause has been unparalleled and she has seamlessly stepped into her new position. I have given her a full plate of work, and she consistently outperforms her state-wide peers.

In 2017 the Town Council approved changes to the Town Charter which, if approved by the legislature and the voters, will make needed changes to the way we conduct business and streamline and clarify the way we do our work. The process began several years ago, prior to Councilors Losche and Gallagher's first election to the Council. They served on the Town's first Charter Committee and were instrumental in making recommendations to the Council. While the Charter change process proved to be very lengthy, it is working exactly the way it should. Methodically and with great care – just as any constitutional change should.

We have continued to implement the new Administrative Code. This has meant changes to committee and staff roles. In some respects, it has been a challenging transition which has sometimes been met with resistance. But I think we have guided these changes with great sensitivity to how things used to be done, and to the folks who have seen their roles shift on their boards and committees.

On the labor front, in 2017 we negotiated three collective bargaining agreements with our employees which finalized our transition to a well-defined and consistent salary matrix. We have ensured that all bargaining unit employees are paid fairly, and we have made changes to agreements which ensure that employees can be stable in their positions. I want to take a moment to recognize our bargaining units – especially the firefighters, police officers, and our DPW employees – for being full participants in our efforts to stabilize and strengthen the Town's fiscal health and our future together.

In 2017 we continued to focus on our hiring process, and the thoughtful approach we used to fill every vacancy. We spent a lot of time and effort to centralize and formalize a process that has for years been an afterthought. We have recognized how important it is to hire the right people at the right time to do the right job. We also recognize how important it is to

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

hold employees accountable for their work product, and how critical it is to document performance.

In 2017 we achieved a milestone in the lengthy process to repair and rebuild the Mitchell School. The Massachusetts School Building Authority accepted the Town into its competitive grant funding program, and the Town's voters approved the first step in making sure we create a learning space safe and suitable for Bridgewater's children.

In 2017 we grappled with the issues of recreational marijuana. We created a Marijuana Ad Hoc Committee which has provided steady and well-informed advice on a whole host of issues related to the use of recreational marijuana. While the Council was fairly split on most of the major components, it eventually voted to ban the retail sales of recreational marijuana in Bridgewater but allow the wholesale components of this new industry. Now that the state's Cannabis Control Commission has released its regulations, we will likely have more work to do in the coming months.

But, more importantly, the marijuana issue highlighted something that has been talked about since Bridgewater's change of government. With this particular issue, residents have found that they have a voice, and that they can advocate for what they believe is right. It has also helped to properly draw a sharp distinction between the policy setting role of the Council, and the operational role of the Town Manager and the staff. This form of government thrives when those roles are clearly defined and delineated.

In 2017, we hoped that we would secure grant funding to rebuild Elm Street, our major industrial corridor. Unfortunately, that did not happen. In the place of grant funding, we are now looking at several financing options which we can use to get this project done – including district infrastructure financing which is before the Council tonight for review.

But this project and the hard work we have done to secure grant funding has highlighted another issue which has been brewing for several years, and which professional municipal managers have been dreading but expecting. The federal government's recently unveiled infrastructure initiative has already laid the groundwork for shifting the burden of infrastructure to state and local governments. This will place enormous pressure on Bridgewater. The funding we dedicate to road reconstruction and maintenance is already anemic. Now we know we cannot rely on federal and state funding to make drastically needed improvements to our infrastructure – meaning roads, bridges, and sidewalks. Regardless, we will turn over every rock to find any available funding for Bridgewater.

In 2017 we saw three large affordable housing projects make application to the Zoning Board of Appeals to construct over 500 units of housing in Bridgewater. Chapter 40B is a state law which requires all cities and towns in Massachusetts to achieve a minimum threshold of 10% of their housing stock as affordable. 40B allows developers to avoid most local zoning regulations and density requirements in return for providing at least 25% of their new units as affordable. Bridgewater has roughly 8,500 units of housing which means

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

we need to have roughly 850 affordable units. If all three developments are approved by the ZBA and come to fruition, we will exceed the 850 required units. This means Bridgewater will have much more control over its affordable housing development.

In 2017 we finalized the update to our Open Space and Recreation Plan with a special look at our passive recreational resources. We also asked one of our BSU interns to create a plan to implement the Open Space and Rec Plan knowing we do not have the resources to do what the plan calls for. Anthony Hebert created a well-thought-out plan which plots a course using volunteers and limited Town staff. Partly because of his great work, I just appointed Anthony to the Finance Committee. Sitting on the Finance Committee is the best way to learn the detailed ins-and-outs of municipal government.

In 2017, we asked OCPC to tackle the update to our 5-year-old Housing Production Plan. The Plan is important to complete because it insulates the Town from unwise affordable housing developments, and it qualifies us for grant funding that might not otherwise be available. OCPC produced a sound plan which defines the kinds of developments and redevelopments we really want to focus on. It also gives the Affordable Housing Trust a guide for its work.

In 2017 we completed work on phase two of our Complete Streets program. Our engineers compiled and ranked dozens of areas, mostly in the central business district, that were in dire need of upgrading or reconstruction. The list includes such things as sidewalk reconstruction, traffic light installation, crosswalk placements, and intersection realignments. The total cost of almost \$4 million only begins to address the overall needs in Town. Again, we were not successful in securing grant funding in 2017 for the first phase of construction, but we will continue to press for Complete Streets grant funding of up to \$400,000 per year in each of the next several years as long as the program continues.

In 2017, with the Council's support, we put the long abandoned McElwain School out for bid. This important historic structure is on the National Historic Record and is an integral part of Bridgewater's history as a factory town during the 19th century. Frankly I was assuming the building would be highly desirable due to the state and federal historic tax credits that are attached to the building's renovation. I assumed wrong. We received one bid which matched the request for proposal. We continue to analyze that bid and its benefits for Bridgewater. Regardless, it is imperative that we sell the building or begin the expensive and lengthy process to tear it down. It is too big a liability in its current state.

In 2017 with a new Finance Director and a solid team in place, we laser focused on our outstanding financial issues. We began long-overdue efforts to collect outstanding taxes. Our efforts proved fruitful. Working with the Finance team, our Legal Department consisting of Mark Gildea and Jason Rawlins were successful in their efforts to collect outstanding taxes owed on the Route 24 rest areas which are taxable but not lien-able. For those who are unfamiliar with municipal finance, this is a rare feat for which our team and both lawyers deserve tremendous credit.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

Tony Sulmonte, our Finance Director, used 2017 to implement processes and systems which should become routine in future years. He has given us access to data we can use to make important decisions about the future of Bridgewater. Whether it is decisions on zoning, road repairs, marijuana, housing, or our relationship with BSU and the Department of Corrections, all involve financial considerations. Our ability to access solid financial data and apply it to a decision-making process is the mark of a fiscally mature community. I think we are almost there. Tony has developed a dynamic 5-year financial outlook which allows us to show the Council, the Finance Committee, team leaders, employees, and residents where we will be in five years, and the impact of collective bargaining contracts, health care costs, pension assessments, and residential and commercial development on our budgets. Of all the progress we have made over the past few years, this is probably the most important.

Again, we are elevating the level of professionalism by which we operate.

In 2017 we filed suit against the Environmental Protection Agency and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection. At issue was the EPA's new five-year sewer discharge permit that required Bridgewater to make drastic upgrades to its sewer system within a very short period. We strenuously objected because we felt the timeline was far too aggressive and would place a huge burden on the ratepayers too quickly. After several months of litigation and high-level settlement discussions, the EPA and DEP agreed to extend the implementation schedule to 10 years. Furthermore, we successfully argued that a 15-year timetable would be more appropriate if the 10-year schedule places an overly burdensome obligation on those who cannot afford it. It was unfortunate that it took litigation with our federal and state partners to settle our differences, but that is sometimes the route we must go to do what we think is right.

In 2017, with the help of our Water and Sewer Board, we finally designed a fix for the rusty water that has plagued Bridgewater for generations. We proposed a new \$7 million water treatment plant which will be built off of High Street to treat water being pumped from the High Street wells. At the end of 2017, with valuable guidance from DEP and our engineers, we delayed the project by one year so we could redesign the project to include renovations to the wells, new storage and office space, and improvements to the water distribution garage.

In 2017 we thrust ourselves into the 21st century by rolling out our water meter replacement program. The new water meters will not require annual visits to resident's homes. Rather, meters can be read electronically, and water bills processed automatically – eliminating human error. Residents and businesses can also track their own water usage from their computer or smart phone.

In 2017, after some delays, we finished long overdue upgrades to the Senior Center's kitchen and bathrooms. This is only a couple of many needed building improvements.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

2017 was the first full year of the new Public Records law. Passed by the legislature arguably to punish public agencies that stonewall requests for information, the law places a huge and costly burden on towns like Bridgewater. We honored over 100 public records requests in 2017 and spent 100s of staff hours researching and generating documents. Most of these were frivolous requests designed only to test our willingness to provide public records. As I have said to our team leaders many times, almost any document we have is a public document available for anyone who asks. The legislature would have been more helpful if, instead of creating more unfunded mandates on cities and towns, it created guidelines for the placement of records on our websites. If it created guidelines and conventions for the electronic storage of documents. The unintended consequence of this public records law is lost productivity, lost efficiency, and expense for towns like ours.

2017 saw the formalization of the group known as the Citizens for Civility and Respect in Bridgewater. Created after an unfortunate racially charged incident in Town, a group of concerned residents came together to look for ways to build cultural understanding and respect for people of every religion and background.

In 2017 the Bridgewater Improvement Association let us know that it had to scale back its contribution towards keeping the Common and the downtown areas maintained. We worked with the Association to arrange a plan that would keep them involved in keeping the Common maintained but placed the fiscal responsibility on the Town to maintain our other parks and grounds. The BIA will refocus its attention to building its endowment, so it can strengthen its long-term ability to maintain its park and the Common.

2017 saw the formulation of a paid parking program which was approved by the Council early this year. The plan targets an unmet need. Students and staff look for parking close to campus. So we have targeted parking areas which are not used by Bridgewater residents or local businesses. While it may seem like a relatively small thing, it is a step on the way to building a fund to address the many infrastructure needs of the Town. For instance, the revenue derived from paid parking can fund engineering costs for many sidewalk projects, parking lot improvements, and even parking garages.

In 2017 we made strides in curbing the opioid crisis. With BSU, and several other partners, we continue to participate in the Bridging LIVES Coalition and the Plymouth County Opioid Awareness Coalition. We assigned officers to conduct overdose follow-up visits with a recovery coach. We also were recently awarded a Jail Diversion Grant by DPH to hire a clinician to ride along with officers to respond to issues of mental health or substance abuse and provide social service or treatment referrals.

In 2017 the Council approved a funding request to pay for a broad comprehensive re-zoning effort which will begin later this spring with a build-out analysis and culminate with a comprehensive set of zoning ordinances to be adopted by the Town Council. This effort is critical to the long-term growth of Bridgewater. It is critical to how we shape and encourage the growth we want and curb the growth we don't want.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

In 2017 we unveiled a cutting-edge web-based payment system which allows residents to pay real and personal property taxes and other fees from their smart phones or computers any time of day or night.

In 2017 we worked with the Wild and Scenic Taunton River to apply for federal funding to help us develop a long-term plan for our parks.

While we have been busy in 2017, our effectiveness depends on knowing where we are going. To set goals we need to know the end game. To that end, we have begun a strategic planning process which will help inform our future and give us a roadmap to get there. The process will include robust participation from residents and volunteers with guidance from staff.

But to continue to move forward, we are not awaiting the results of that strategic planning process. For 2018, I have set out several goals for myself and the staff.

In 2018 we must resolve the disposition of our empty buildings. I have proposed a disposition of the McElwain, and we will be starting construction on the upgrades to the Memorial Building. I will also be proposing a disposition of the Town Hall and the Spring Street garage.

In 2018 we will carefully analyze the contract renewal for Comcast.

We will be planning extensive water main replacements and planning for extensive road work throughout Town. I will challenge the Finance Department to propose ways to pay for road improvements which will likely include voter participation and capital exclusions.

We will discuss and decide how we will proceed with planning for the possible decommissioning of the High Street dam.

We will plan for downtown revitalization and look for ways to fund that. We will start by building public support and consensus for a solution that works for Bridgewater.

We will participate in a street light conversion project to improve lighting in the neighborhoods of Town and reduce our electrical usage.

We will rebuild Elm Street to provide the spark to industrial development which will begin to reduce the residential tax burden and spur new growth.

We will secure the threshold of 10% affordable housing and work to execute our housing production plan by developing affordable housing options that work for Bridgewater such as the McElwain proposal. We will be designated a Housing Choice Initiative town which will give us state funding priority.



## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Town Manager: State of the Town Address 2017** *continued*

We will continue to work towards a solution for the Mitchell School which ensures that Bridgewater children attend a safe school that fully implements the District's educational program.

We will work with the District to support its educational plan within the funding constraints of Prop 2 ½.

We will finish the first comprehensive capital plan we have ever done.

We will continue to build stability and professionalism by recruiting excellent staff, board and committee volunteers who want to do the best for Bridgewater.

Finally, I would be horribly remiss if I did not recognize some truly unsung heroes in the Town of Bridgewater. The accomplishments of Roadways Superintendent Ron Ladue and his small staff are stunning in light of the resources we can afford to give them. To give you an idea, generally Bridgewater spends a total of \$2,100 per person annually. The state average is \$4,100. Other cities' and towns' DPWs spend an average of \$26,500 per road mile. Bridgewater spends less than half of that. \$12,000. The Roadways Department budget is almost back to the level it was in 2004. That is 14 years ago. What we ask our Roadways Department to do with few staff and few dollars is enormous and cannot be sustained. Regardless, Ron and his staff go at it every day give this Town 100%. For that, they are the unsung heroes of Bridgewater.

I will end on this note: I have never seen a more committed and dedicated group of employees and volunteer than I have in Bridgewater. I thank them for their commitment to public service. It's not always easy.

I also thank my assistant Michael Spagone who exemplifies the spirit of municipal government service. And Council Clerk Ann Holmberg who keeps the Council and me on an even keel and can answer any question I have day or night.

I ask that you give them and yourselves round of applause for the work you do on behalf of the Town of Bridgewater. Thank you and good night.

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## **Veterans' Services**

The Director for the Town of Bridgewater's Department of Veterans' Services is appointed by the Town Manager, pursuant to Massachusetts General Law, Chapter 115, and is responsible for the disbursement of funds and assistance to all qualified veterans and/or their dependents as defined in *108 CMR 3.00: Eligibility for Veterans Benefits*.

## **Town Department Reports (continued)**

### **Veterans' Services** *continued*

During this past year, the number of veterans requesting assistance from the United States Department of Veterans' Affairs has noticeably increased as the economy caused unemployment to rise to levels not seen in many years. Recent changes allowing local Veterans' Agents to process these requests has resulted in a more rapid response to Veterans' needs.

The operation of this agency enabled every eligible veteran, or dependent, who applied, to receive certain financial, medical, educational, employment and other benefits and/or assistance. All expenses incurred for veterans are seventy-five percent reimbursed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

I wish to express my sincerest appreciation to the veterans of Bridgewater and the Town staff for their support of this Department and our mission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roderick K. Walsh, Director of Veterans' Services

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## Regional School Department Reports

### Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School Department

The Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District is the second largest regional district in the Commonwealth and is dedicated to continuous improvement in all aspects of teaching and learning as we prepare students to succeed in a global economy.

Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District is comprised of the Towns of Bridgewater and Raynham and, as of October 1, 2016, have a student population of 5,356\*. Over 3,200 students are Bridgewater residents with the remaining Raynham residents. The District employs 591 teachers, administrators, nurses and support staff who remain committed to providing a quality educational program (\*As submitted by BRRSD).

The District operates seven schools:

	<b>Grades</b>	<b>Number of Students</b>
Lillie B. Merrill Elementary School	K-1	310
Dr. E. Joseph LaLiberte Elementary School	2-4	490
Raynham Middle School	5-8	665
George H. Mitchell Elementary School	PK-3	1036
Williams Intermediate School	4-6	801
Bridgewater Middle School	7-8	510
Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School	9-12	1439

Additionally, we have 28 students enrolled in the Alternative High School Excel Program, 57 Out of District students in special education programs and 22 preschoolers receiving Special Education services for a total of 5,367\* (\*As submitted by BRRSD).

Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District students are provided with an outstanding educational program.

Our high school graduation rate is 98.8%. The High School holds NEASC Accreditation and last year was named to the A.P. Honor Roll by the College Board for increasing student participation by 38% in advanced placement courses.

The District's comprehensive range of programs and services affords our students opportunities to excel academically, socially, and culturally.

Students begin a rich learning experience at the elementary level with Literacy and Numeracy programs as well as hands-on Science, Social Studies and student-centered learning. Students also participate in Unified Arts including Physical Education, Music, Technology, Library, and Art instruction.

At the intermediate and middle school levels, students experience the teaming approach to education which allows for interdisciplinary instruction. Enrichment programs and extracurricular opportunities such as band, chorus and athletics are introduced at this level.

## **Regional School Department Reports (continued)**

### **Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School Department** *continued*

The Bridgewater-Raynham Regional High School is recognized for its academically rigorous offerings including twelve (12) Advanced Placement courses such as Advanced Placement Physics, Calculus, Biology, U.S. History, etc.

The High School holds the distinction of having the largest Dual Enrollment Program in Massachusetts. The District also provides an Alternative High School, Excel to ensure that students who haven't met with success in the day program have the opportunity to obtain a High School diploma by attending this program.

The High School is designated as a Division One Athletic program in which over 700 student-athletes participate. There are over 24 different athletic offerings including Lacrosse, Golf, Tennis, Swim, Cross Country, Football, Baseball, Basketball, Ice Hockey, Soccer, and Cheerleading.

The Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School District is transitioning to digital learning in order to create more personalized experiences for students. This will enable teachers to differentiate instruction in meaningful ways based upon individual student needs.

We are using a variety of web-based educational programs that support the curriculum; such programs include ST Math, Lexia, Read 180, Systems 44, Ebooks, and textbooks with digital pathways. The District has focused on increasing technology over the course of the last three (3) years. Updates to technology include upgrades in infrastructure and increased bandwidth. We have 20 computer labs, mobile iPad labs, Chromebook labs, and interactive whiteboards and/or projection systems in every classroom.

Additionally, we have administrative technologies that have improved the efficiency of operations including Financial, Human Resources, Employee Attendance and Recruiting, and Student Information Systems.

We continue to implement a variety of Cost Saving Efficiencies through the use of technology solutions such as the online posting of documents and on-line registration for school and Kindergarten. We are also continuing to utilize online access to the student information system to help reduce printed paperwork and keep our parents "connected" as well as reducing printed paper in school offices.

Other cost saving measures included in-house snowplowing/removal, outsourcing of various maintenance needs for equipment and purchasing through various cooperative groups including the State program, COMMBUYS.

These accomplishments speak to the continued support that our District receives from the member towns, the communities at large, and the Bridgewater-Raynham Regional School Committee. We thank you for your commitment to quality public education.

Respectfully submitted,  
Derek J. Swenson, Superintendent of Schools

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## **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School**

I am pleased to submit this annual review of significant accomplishments to you. The Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School community strives to focus on our students at all times. It is our mission to educate students and to assist them in realizing their full potential as responsible, productive, contributing members of society by providing an educational environment in which students are challenged, excellence is expected, and differences are valued. All students and staff focus on this mission through academic achievement, technical proficiency, and career readiness. A considerable amount of time is spent modeling career readiness skills and life skills that will help the students lead independent and successful lives.

Bristol-Plymouth uses a variety of methods to measure the achievement of our mission goals. One of the most recognized measures of achievement is known as performance levels assigned by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. These performance levels are assigned to schools based on dropout rates, graduation rates, academic achievement, and student growth. We continue to evaluate our programs and to make adjustments based on data from various sources. With the support of our School Committee and the hard work of our students and staff, we strive, on a continual basis, to assist every student to perform at his or her full potential.

### **Academic Achievement**

Bristol-Plymouth continues a commitment to the analysis of existing performance and to responsive, continuous improvement in the area of academic achievement. One measure of improvement is the number of students achieving honor roll status and successfully completing Advanced Placement courses. Currently, Bristol-Plymouth offers AP courses in Biology, Calculus, Literature and Composition, Language and Composition, US History, as well as in both Statistics and Computer Science, which were added in the 2017-2018 school year. In 2017, 105 students participated in the Advanced Placement exams. In addition, 87 members of the class of 2017 were John and Abigail Adams Scholarship recipients.

An additional measure of academic achievement in all Massachusetts public schools is student performance on the MCAS examinations. In 2017, 94% of students taking the English Language Arts MCAS examination scored in either the proficient or advanced categories.

The 2017 Mathematics MCAS examination results show 97% of students earning a passing score and 78% scoring in the advanced or proficient categories. There was an increase in the percentage of students in the advanced level.

The Biology MCAS examination results in 2017 indicate that 96% of our students achieved a passing score, with 69% scoring in the advanced or proficient categories. There was also an increase in the percentage of students achieving at the advanced level.

## **Regional School Department Reports (continued)**

### **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School** *continued*

**Editors' Note:** We have reformatted the original report so that it is consistent with our Annual Town Report. To view the full report with MCAS charts and other graphics, please contact Bristol-Plymouth Technical High School at 508-823-5151.

#### **Technical Achievement**

Our students' technical proficiency is at an all-time high. We have students earning National Certifications in their technical areas of expertise, winning awards in their technical areas at the national level, and entering employment above entry level. Students use their skills to give back to both our school community and our member communities.

In our continuous efforts to maintain and upgrade our facilities, many of our students have contributed to projects within our building. Additionally, 2017 saw the ongoing construction of our Early Childhood Education Center which is being carried out primarily by our students in the construction trades. Not only does this major project benefit the District, but it also provides opportunities for students to see first-hand what their peers are accomplishing every day.

#### **Community Involvement**

Our students are very aware of the generosity of our communities and are always anxious to give back. Our Graphic Design students completed many projects for entities in Berkley. Printing projects included tax bills, envelopes, and building inspector tags for the Town of Berkley as well as letterhead and fliers for the Berkley Public Library. The Open Shelves Food Pantry's raffle calendar and fliers were printed as well as the Council on Aging newsletter. Our Culinary students also hosted a luncheon for the Council on Aging. The Community Service Club collected and wrapped Christmas gifts to give to 33 needy families through Intensive Foster Care and Adoption in Berkley, MA.

The Collision Technology Program custom painted a mailbox for the Lydia Cobb Quequechan Chapter of DAR from Berkley.

In the Town of Bridgewater, Faith Chapel utilized the skills of our Carpentry students who built and installed a new sign. Our Graphic Design students printed a brochure for the Bridgewater Garden Club and sweatshirts for Bridgewater Middle School.

The Junior Football league in Dighton utilized our Graphic Design services to print their fundraiser calendar.

Middleborough had multiple projects completed by students in our Graphics Design Program. The School Department had newsletters, books, brochures, and Tshirts printed. The Town of Middleborough had their Town Report printed and the Police Department had business cards printed. Middleborough Little League had window stickers and banners printed by our Graphics students as well.

## **Regional School Department Reports (continued)**

### **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School** *continued*

Our students completed a number of projects in the Town of Raynham. Collision Technology students painted twelve sign holders for the Salvation Army. Graphic Design students printed envelopes for the Friends of the Raynham Public Library as well as monthly newsletters for Pinehill Estates and raffle tickets for the Raynham Youth Lacrosse.

In Rehoboth, Rehoboth Animal Advocates had four cat shelters for their feral trap and neuter program made and delivered by our Carpentry students.

Our Graphic Design students have completed many projects for organizations from the City of Taunton. TASC, St. Vincent DePaul & Pennies from Heaven, St. Anthony's Church, Greater Taunton Charitable Association, Taunton Art Association, Colonial Estates, Boy Scouts of America, Taunton Fire Department, Taunton East and Taunton West Little Leagues, Taunton Garden Club, Weir Seniors, Morton Hospital Retirees, Taunton Literacy Council, and Taunton Jr. Women's Club have utilized our Graphic Design program to design and print various products.

Our carpentry students constructed and installed a new sign for St. Mary's Church, and students in our Metal Fabrication program fabricated new window grates for the First Parish Church. Plumbing students turned on and shut down the water at the East Taunton Little League fields.

Alexandra Mello, a student in our Design and Visual Communications Program, designed the winning logo for the Taunton Public Library Logo Contest.

Community Health students work in a variety of area health care facilities. Nineteen juniors completed training as Certified Nurse Assistants through the Department of Public Health. Seniors in Community Health completed the First Responder Course and earned certifications. Other Community Health seniors completed the Massachusetts Providers Council Human Services Credential in Developmental and Intellectual Disabilities.

The Early Childhood Education students operate the Child Care Center, a full-service day care center, within our building. It is fully enrolled with 33 children from our surrounding communities. Our Early Childhood Education program enjoys a strong partnership with The Arbors in Taunton, and our high school students and preschoolers visit several times a year to participate in activities with the residents. The students from this program also intern in multiple day care centers in our member communities as well as at Berkley Community School and at St. Mary's, Leddy School, and Head Start in Taunton.

Our service programs were also very active in our member communities. Dental Assistant students intern in many of the local dentists' offices. The students recently earned certifications in DANB Infection Control and Radiation Health and Safety.

## **Regional School Department Reports (continued)**

### **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School *continued***

#### **Cooperative Education Program**

The Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School Cooperative Education Program's mission is aligned with the District's to enable students to become skilled, productive members of a global workforce. Our goal is to engage students in a process of learning that links work experience with classroom knowledge. Many of the businesses in our communities recognize the fine work that our students are doing. The Cooperative Education Program (Co-op) has seen an increase in the number of students employed each year. In 2017, the program assisted 125 seniors and 49 juniors in securing employment within their technical areas at 130 local companies.

#### **State and National Achievement**

Student achievement is also measured by our success in many student and community organization competitions. Many Health Care, Biotechnology, and Dental Assisting students participate in the Health Occupation Students Association (HOSA) competitions at both the state and international level. Numerous students are members of Business Professionals of America (BPA) and compete at state and national competitions. Other students are members of the Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) and compete at the district, state, and international level. All of our students are members of SkillsUSA and compete at the district, state, and national level.

#### **Student Life**

We believe that the achievement of our goals can also be measured by interest in our school and the success of our graduates. Within the seven member communities of our District, the number of students interested in attending B-P continued to be high this year; the number of students accepted to the Class of 2021 was 440. The new online admissions process, utilizing go2cte.com, has been a positive addition. It has been found to be essential in tracking applications and supporting paperwork for review. It has also provided additional pathways to communicating information, upcoming events, and periodic notices to potential students and their parents/guardians.

In 2017, each class retained a high percentage of its students bringing the October 1 population of the school to 1278. At Bristol-Plymouth's 44th commencement in June 2017, 313 members of the class graduated with 65% continuing on to post-secondary education, 29% to the work force, and 6% to the military. 111 graduates went on to four-year colleges; 73 to two-year colleges, and 7 to trade schools.

Our Practical Nurse Program graduated 45 students in June of 2017. 100% of the students who took the national licensure exam passed it and employment at six months post-graduation is 98 percent. Many are employed in local health care facilities. Currently, the Practical Nurse Program has 40 students enrolled in the day program and 20 in the evening. The program met conditions for continued full compliance with Massachusetts Board of Registration in Nursing.



## **Regional School Department Reports (continued)**

### **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School** *continued*

Our Post-Secondary Dental Program saw its fourth year of enrollment. In 2017, five students graduated. 100% continued in the field with one continuing education and four employed in local dental facilities. Currently, there are twelve students enrolled in the program.

The Guidance and Career Center is continuing its use of the NAVIANCE program, a premier college and career readiness program designed to provide students with college planning and career assessment tools. This is a valuable resource for both students and parents to use when applying to college and searching for scholarships. All students in grades 9 through 12 are registered and have access to curriculum for college and career planning and employability skills, thus creating a foundation for post-secondary success. Our Career Center, an extension of the Student Services Department, continues to thrive. Our regularly scheduled workshops assist in preparing students for job and college applications. In addition, the center also holds “On the Spot” admissions events where our seniors can apply directly to local colleges and get accepted on the spot.

In addition to the college fairs that take place annually at B-P in October, B-P hosted the Taunton Regional College Fair again for the second time in April of 2017. Over 90 colleges and universities participated, and over 500 students, parents, and families from surrounding high schools attended. By all accounts, the event was a complete success.

Our focus is always to help our students to become independent. We are making plans to once again hold our Credit for Life Fair, an interactive financial literacy program.

We always encourage our students to give to those less fortunate. We have given a record amount of food to the St. Vincent de Paul food pantry. Our Student Council ran a very successful gift drive to benefit homeless and low-income families in Taunton. Our Community Service Club continues to be quite active and is always searching for ways in which to lend support. In 2017, in addition to monthly visits with residents at the Arbors, club members participated in Taunton’s Earth Day clean up; they also helped with the revitalization of the butterfly garden at Boyden Bird Sanctuary. The club held several collections throughout the year as well as collections of back packs and school supplies for H.O.P.E. Inc. They also held a food drive, a winter coat drive, and participated in a paint night at Marian Manor.

Our culture and climate continue to improve every year. We continually strive to increase our number of extracurricular offerings with the addition of clubs and athletic teams based on student interest.

### **Fiscal Outlook**

The District is very fortunate to have supportive member communities and an engaged School Committee. Although the economy is slowly recovering, the District continues to face challenges in keeping the educational programs at the highest level possible. Such challenges include a notification received from the Massachusetts State Employees’

## Regional School Department Reports (continued)

### **Bristol-Plymouth Regional Technical School** *continued*

Retirement System (“MSERS”) for reimbursement of the pro rata share of the pensions paid to the District’s non-teacher retirees. This sudden and altogether unexpected financial obligation for non-teacher pensions requires the District to redirect vital educational dollars towards an ongoing annual obligation to the State of Massachusetts.

With this unexpected annual expense, the District will continue to investigate methods to reduce costs while exploring different revenue sources to prepare for future budgets. Additionally, the District will apply for state and federal grants, as they become available, to augment our ability to provide state of the art technology and equipment for our students in our academic and technical programs.

On a positive note, the District received notification from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) in December for an invitation of our Statement of Interest (SOI) into the MSBA’s Eligibility Period. This 270-day Eligibility Period formalizes and streamlines the beginning of the MSBA’s grant approval process and benefits the District by providing a definite schedule for the completion of preliminary requirements, assisting with the determination of financial and community readiness, and identifying needs for planning and budgeting. Successful completion of all activities in the Eligibility Period will allow the District to be eligible for an MSBA invitation to the Feasibility Study. The District has submitted a Statement of Interest to the MSBA for the past eight years and was delighted to receive such positive news. The Eligibility Period will commence on July 2, 2018.

#### **School Committee:**

Louis Borges, Jr., Chair	Taunton
Timothy J. Holick, Vice-Chair	Raynham
Ellen M. Bruno	Berkley
Mark A. Dangoia	Bridgewater
Michael P. Ramos	Dighton
George L. Randall, III	Middleborough
James W. Clark	Rehoboth
Thomas A. Bernier	Taunton

Respectfully submitted,



Alexander Magalhaes  
Superintendent-Director

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### Old Colony Planning Council

As your representative to the Old Colony Planning Council (OCPC), we are pleased to present this report on behalf of the Council for 2017.

The Old Colony Planning Council was established in 1967 by state statute and is authorized to prepare plans for the physical, social and economic development of the seventeen-member community region. OCPC is designated as: an Economic Development District by the U.S. Department of Commerce for the coordination of regional economic development activities; an Area Agency on Aging (AAA) by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs to plan, manage and coordinate elder services in a twenty-three community service area; and, the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) to plan and program transportation and transit improvements for the region.

In addition to the above-designated responsibilities, the Council also assists its member municipalities with technical planning, grant application preparation and current local and regional socioeconomic information.

During the past year, the Council completed the FFY 2018-2022 Transportation Improvement Program (TIP); the 2017 Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy (CEDS) Plan; the Brockton Area Transit - Aging in Place Report; the FFY 2018 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP); and provided numerous Road Safety Audits, Intersection Analyses, and Transportation Technical Studies to the member communities. The Council also provided technical assistance to member communities under the District Local Technical Assistance (DLTA) Program. The DLTA funding was used in such areas as regionalization, including aggregation of electricity, the investigation of regional water and wastewater, as well as conducting a number of land use analyses, neighborhood economic, housing production plans, community compact and transportation analyses. The Council also provided assistance to the town of Plymouth on the decommissioning of the nuclear power plant, assistance to municipalities in the development of business associations and site finders, green communities designation and provided a variety of economic development technical assistance. The Old Colony Area Agency on Aging (AAA) during the past year, with assistance and guidance from member community advisory committee members, has continued the ongoing administration of over \$1.4 million dollars of Federal and State funding for elder services. The OCPC-AAA administers and oversees funding for services like transportation, homecare, legal services, nutrition, and others to the more than 97,000 persons' age 60 and over in the region. In addition, we completed the FFY 2016 Need Assessment and FFY 2018-2022 Area Plan on Aging. The OCPC-AAA continues to advocate on behalf of older persons from throughout the region. The OCPC-AAA Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program continues its efforts, with over 1,300 visits to nursing and rest homes, investigating over 320 issues of concern from residents or families. In addition, OCPC continues to administer the Septic Loan Program for the Towns of Avon, Cohasset, Hanson, Kingston and Stoughton. During 2017, the Council processed approximately \$142,000 in loans for both septic systems and sewer connection for the communities under the Septic Loan Program.

## **Outside Services Reports (continued)**

### **Old Colony Planning Council** *continued*

One delegate and one alternate member represent each member community of the Council. The Council members establish policy, develop the work program, and employ and oversee the activities of the professional staff. The Council meets on the last Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM in the OCPC offices located at 70 School Street, Brockton, MA. In 2017, the Council elected Frank P. Staffier, of Avon as Council President; Christine Joy, of Plympton as Council Treasurer; and, Fred L. Gilmetti, of Whitman as Council Secretary. Pasquale Ciaramella serves as Executive Director of the Council.

The Council gratefully acknowledges the generous support and cooperation of its member communities and the participation and involvement of the many individuals who participate as members of committees. Special thanks are extended to the Joint Transportation Committee Chair Noreen O'Toole; Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy Committee Chair Mary Waldron; and, the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Committee Chair Anna Seery for their commitment, dedication and leadership during the past year. The Council also recognizes the work of local boards and commissions and the government agencies, public and private institutions and individuals who assisted the Council in its efforts.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra M. Wright, Delegate  
Troy E. Garron, Delegate At-Large

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## **Plymouth County Cooperative Extension**

The role of Plymouth County Cooperative Extension is to deliver research-based information to Plymouth County residents through non-formal methods. The Plymouth County Extension staff work on behalf of Plymouth County residents, in concert with UMass Amherst faculty and Extension staff, and the United States Department of Agriculture, to provide valuable information in the program areas of 'Agriculture and Landscape' and '4-H Youth and Family Development'. The Extension System is supported by County, State and Federal funds, and operates under Federal and State laws and agreements. Local citizens, appointed by the Plymouth County Commissioners, serve as Plymouth County Cooperative Extension Trustees, directing the overall program. Volunteer advisory groups work with Extension staff on developing programs.

Cooperative Extension resources and programs for Plymouth County residents include: 4-H Science and Technology workshops in the areas of embryology, general science and plant science; accredited overnight 4-H summer camps; 4-H animal science summer day-workshops; 4-H Life Skills Training, 4-H Community Service Projects, 4-H Public Speaking Training, 4-H Babysitting Program and 4-H partnerships with local farms and agricultural enterprises including the Marshfield Agricultural Society, Plymouth County Farm Bureau and Plymouth County Grange. New research findings are translated into

## Outside Services Reports (continued)

### **Plymouth County Cooperative Extension** *continued*

practical applications and shared with residents and communities through workshops, lectures, conferences, office visits, phone calls, field demonstrations, radio, television, local libraries, technical assistance, and newspaper articles. Publications such as newsletters, booklets, and fact sheets bring information directly to those who need it. Additional information is delivered through UMass-Amherst Center for Agriculture and Extension web access [www.ag.umass.edu](http://www.ag.umass.edu)

#### Members of the Plymouth County Extension Staff:

Molly Vollmer, Director Plymouth County Extension/ Extension Educator  
Valerie Schell, Extension Educator, 4-H Youth and Family Development Program  
Evelyn Golden, Program Assistant, 4-H Youth and Family Development Program  
Blake Dinius, Entomologist, Tick and Insect Education Program (hired Aug '17)  
Cathy Acampora, Administrative Assistant

#### Board of Trustees:

John Burnett Jr. –Whitman	Meghan C. Riley –Chairman, Whitman
Jeff Chandler – Duxbury	John Illingworth- Abington
John Hornstra, Norwell	Victoria Morris, Bridgewater
Aylene Calnan- Hingham	Janice Strojny, Middleboro
Daniel Pallotta, Plymouth County Commissioner - Hanover	

The Plymouth County Extension office is located at 44 Obery Street, Plymouth, MA 02360  
(781-293-3541; fax: 774-773-3184)

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## **Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project**

The Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project is a special district created by the State Legislature in 1957, and is now composed of all Plymouth County towns, the City of Brockton, and the town of Cohasset. The Project is a regional response to a regional problem, and provides a way of organizing specialized equipment, specially trained employees, and mosquito control professionals into a single agency with a broad geographical area of responsibility.

The 2017 season began with normal amounts of precipitation but became drier as the season progressed. Efforts were directed at larval mosquitoes starting with the spring brood. The Project ground and aerial larvicided 15,032 acres and this was accomplished using B.t.i., an environmentally selective bacterial agent. Upon emergence of the spring brood of mosquitoes, ultra-low volume adulticiding began on June 5, 2017 and ended on September 8, 2017. The Project responded to 14,209 requests for spraying and larval checks from residents covering all of the towns within the district.

## Outside Services Reports (continued)

### **Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project** *continued*

Massachusetts Department of Public Health has developed an “Arbovirus Surveillance and Response Plan” for the state. The Plan creates a system which estimates the human risk for contracting Eastern Equine Encephalitis and West Nile using several factors including the number of infected mosquitoes. Based on guidelines defined by the Plan, all towns in Plymouth County Mosquito Project were at the “Low Level Risk” for Eastern Equine Encephalitis. We are pleased to report that in 2017 there were no human, or horse EEE cases in the district. There were also no detections of EEEV in the mosquito population.

West Nile Virus was active in Massachusetts. This summer, WNV was found in mosquitoes 17 times in the district. The virus was found in Abington, Bridgewater, Halifax, Kingston, Lakeville, Marion, Middleborough, Plymouth, West Bridgewater, and Whitman. In response to these findings DPH estimated that there was a moderate risk of contracting WNV in Abington, Bridgewater, Brockton, East Bridgewater, Halifax, Hanover, Hanson, Kingston, Pembroke, Plymouth, Plympton, Rockland, West Bridgewater, and Whitman. There were no human or horse cases of WNV reported in the district. The Project responded to the increased risk by conducting additional surveillance, larviciding, and adulticiding. As part of our West Nile Virus control strategy a total of 50,694 catch basins were treated with larvicide in all of our towns to prevent WNV.

The Health threat of EEE and WNV continues to ensure cooperation between the Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project, local Boards of Health and the Massachusetts Department of Public Health. In an effort to keep the public informed, EEE and WNV activity updates are regularly posted on the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website.

In conjunction with the MDPH we have been monitoring *Aedes albopictus* expansion in the state. *Ae. albopictus* is an introduced mosquito that has the potential to become a serious pest and a vector of disease. The mosquito has been present in Massachusetts since 2009. The larvae live in containers and are closely linked with human activity. They are

especially associated with used tires. Our surveillance detected *Ae. albopictus* in the District for the second year. In response we reached out to the affected landowners and removed tires from the site. The Project began a tire recycling program in October 2017. Since the program started, we have recycled 3,346 tires.

The figures specific to the town of Bridgewater are given below. While mosquitoes do not respect town lines the information given below does provide a tally of the activities which have had the greatest impact on the health and comfort of Bridgewater residents.

**Insecticide Applications:** Our greatest effort has been targeted at mosquitoes in the larval stage, which can be found in woodland pools, swamps, marshes and other standing water areas. Inspectors continually gather data on these sites and treat with highly specific larvicides when immature mosquitoes are present. In Bridgewater 490 larval sites were checked.

## **Outside Services Reports (continued)**

### **Plymouth County Mosquito Control Project *continued***

During the summer 3097 catch basins were treated in Bridgewater to prevent the emergence of *Culex pipiens*, a known mosquito vector in West Nile Virus transmission.

Our staff treated 785 acres using truck mounted sprayers for control of adult mosquitoes. More than one application was made to the same site if mosquitoes reinvaded the area. The first treatments were made in June and the last in September.

**Water Management:** During 2017 crews removed blockages, brush and other obstructions from 1570 linear feet of ditches and streams to prevent overflows or stagnation that can result in mosquito production. This work, together with machine reclamation, is most often carried out in the fall and winter.

**Mosquito Survey:** Our surveillance showed that the dominant mosquitoes throughout the district were generally *Coquillettidia peturbans* and *Culex salinarius*. In the Town of Bridgewater, the three most common mosquitoes were *Cx. species*, *Cq. Peturbans* and *Cx. salinarius*.

We encourage citizens or municipal officials to visit our website at [www.plymouthmosquito.org](http://www.plymouthmosquito.org) or call our office for information about mosquitoes, mosquito-borne diseases, control practices, or any other matters of concern.

Respectfully submitted,  
Stephen Gillett, Superintendent

Commissioners:  
John Kenney, Chair; Michael F. Valenti, Vice-Chair; Cathleen Drinan, John Sharland, Secretary

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### **Southeastern Regional Services Group**

The Town of Bridgewater receives procurement and other services from the Southeastern Regional Services Group (SERSG) and has since the organization's inception in 1993. SERSG serves two cities and nineteen towns with one Regional Administrator. Annual dues of \$4,100 support these services. This amount is recovered by devoting less time to procurement and from savings in using these contracts. Other services include contract administration and annual trainings.

SERSG administered bids and created new contracts on behalf of the Town for office supplies, paper, public works supplies, public works services, and drug and alcohol testing services.

## Outside Services Reports (continued)

### **Southeastern Regional Services Group** *continued*

- The new two-year office supply contract provides a 71.4% discount off non-excluded items using a standard wholesaler's catalog, and a 46.4% discount off ink and toner cartridges. In 2017 Bridgewater saved \$32,763 off office supply purchases.
- The Town and schools also pay competitive fixed prices for paper using a SERSG contract. Bridgewater spent \$4,205 using this contract in 2017.
- SERSG administered bids for and created 9 DPW Supply contracts for 18 products. The estimated value of these contracts is \$883,822.
- New DPW Service contracts will take effect on 2/1/18. There are 6 contracts for 6 services. These were based on Bridgewater's estimated need valued at \$778,952.

Favorable pricing is a significant membership benefit. Additionally, every SERSG bid saves Bridgewater many hours of skilled staff time and hundreds of dollars in bid-advertising and other costs. SERSG contract pricing is equal to or lower than state contract prices and requires less time and effort for departments to use.

In 2017 SERSG re-branded itself with a new logo. This is part of a new outreach effort to neighboring communities to invite new members. One new member joined in 2017. Our goal is to expand membership for mutual benefit.

Finally, monthly meetings continue for municipal administration, public works, and stormwater specialists, to support the Town of Bridgewater with regional collaboration.

Respectfully submitted,  
Moirá Rouse, Regional Administrator

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# Legislation Voted 2017—Town of Bridgewater

## Ordinances Directory 2017

Town of Bridgewater—Town Council—2017 Ordinances Voted

### Directory of Documents

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/DocumentCenter/View/2145/2017-Adopted-Ordinances-Documents-for-Town-Report---083018>

Online Readers: After arriving at the above web page with the directory, you may:

- Click on an Ordinance number or name to view it
- Scroll the page to browse for a particular Ordinance
- Search on the page to find a specific Ordinance

Ordinance #	Ordinance Title	Date Adopted
<i>D-2016-004</i>	Wireless Communications Facilities License Ordinance	January 24, 2017
<i>D-2016-007</i>	Zoning Ordinance - Elm Street Retail Overlay	February 28, 2017
<i>D-2017-003</i>	Zoning Ordinance Amendment - Land Space Requirements	March 21, 2017
<i>D-2017-005</i>	Amend Administrative Code - Historic Commission Membership	May 23, 2017
<i>D-FY18-001</i>	Establish a Stabilization Fund	September 19, 2017
<i>D-FY18-004</i>	Senior Work-Off Abatement Program	October 3, 2017
<i>D-FY18-003</i>	Zoning Ordinance - Rezone Lots on Easy Street to Residential A/B.	December 19, 2017
<i>D-FY18-005</i>	Zoning Ordinance - Prohibiting the Retail Sale of Recreational Marijuana	December 19, 2017
<i>D-FY18-012</i>	Amend General Ordinances - Vacant and Abandoned Properties	December 19, 2017

## Orders Directory 2017

Town of Bridgewater—Town Council—2017 Orders Voted

### Directory of Documents:

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/DocumentCenter/View/2144/2017-Adopted-Orders-Documents-for-Town-Report---082918>

Online Readers: After arriving at the above web page with the directory, you may:

- Click on an Order number or name to view it
- Scroll the page to browse for a particular Order
- Search on the page to find a specific Order

Order #	Order Title	Date Adopted
<i>O-2017-001</i>	Collective Bargaining Agreement Ratification – SEIU	January 24, 2017
<i>O-2017-003</i>	Contract Ratification - Fire Chief	January 24, 2017
<i>O-2017-004</i>	Contract Ratification - Police Chief	January 24, 2017
<i>O-2017-005</i>	Transfer Order - Demolition - Bedford Street Property	February 7, 2017
<i>O-2017-006</i>	Transfer Order - Appropriation for Ambulance	February 7, 2017
<i>O-2017-007</i>	Transfer Order - Appropriation for Police Equipment	February 7, 2017
<i>O-2017-002</i>	Collective Bargaining Agreement Ratification - Library Union	February 28, 2017
<i>O-2017-010</i>	Ad Hoc Committee – Marijuana	March 21, 2017
<i>O-2016-029</i>	To Procure Services - Strategic Planning	April 4, 2017
<i>O-2017-009</i>	Capital Transfer From Water Retained Earnings	April 25, 2017
<i>O-2017-020</i>	Special Election Warrant - June 10, 2017	May 2, 2017
<i>O-2017-008</i>	Laying Out and Accepting Private Way(s) - Hartswood Way and Doe Brook Circle	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-013</i>	Budget Order - FY18 Annual Town Budget	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-014</i>	Budget Order - FY18 Sewer Enterprise Fund Budget	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-015</i>	Budget Order - FY18 Water Enterprise Fund Budget	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-016</i>	Budget Order - FY18 Transfer Station Enterprise Fund Budget	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-017</i>	Budget Order - FY18 OSLGC Enterprise Fund Budget	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-018</i>	Authorization of Revolving Funds	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-019</i>	Affix Town Clerk Salary	May 9, 2017
<i>O-2017-012</i>	Declaring Town Owned Buildings Available for Sale, Lease	May 23, 2017

## Orders Directory 2017 (continued)

Town of Bridgewater—Town Council—2017 Orders Voted

Order #	Order Title	Date Adopted
<i>O-2017-023</i>	Add Bridgewater Town Hall to Register of Historic Places	May 23, 2017
<i>O-2017-021</i>	Loan Order - MSBA Feasibility Study	June 6, 2017
<i>O-2017-022</i>	Loan Order – Massachusetts Clean Water Trust for High Street Water Treatment Facility	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-024</i>	Capital Plan Items	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-025</i>	Rescind and Revote - Senior Center Trust	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-026</i>	Rescind and Reduce - Sewer Reline Appropriation	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-027</i>	CPA Annual Budget	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-028</i>	General Fund Year End Transfer Adjustments	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-029</i>	Community Preservation Transfer: Year End Transfer Adjustments	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-030</i>	Water & Sewer Transfer Adjustments	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-031</i>	Water & Sewer Transfer of Undesignated Fund Balance	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-032</i>	General Fund Transfer of Undesignated Fund Balance	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-033</i>	General Fund Transfer - Contractual Bargaining Adjustments (CBA)	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-034</i>	General Fund CBA Retroactive Settlement Transfer	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-035</i>	Employee SLBB Liability Transfers	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-036</i>	Acceptance of a Gift - Bridgewater Police Association for WWI Memorial	June 27, 2017
<i>O-2017-038</i>	CPC Transfer - Capital Project - Legion Field Lights	August 8, 2017
<i>O-2017-040</i>	Creation of an Informational Postcard	July 11, 2017
<i>O-2017-041</i>	Tree Removal – Downtown	July 11, 2017
<i>O-FY18-001</i>	Acceptance of a Gift - Bridgewater State University	August 8, 2017
<i>O-FY18-002</i>	South Street - Chapter 61A - Intent Not to Exercise Right to Purchase Land	September 19, 2017
<i>O-FY18-003</i>	Acceptance of a Gift - Estate of John Chruniak	September 19, 2017
<i>O-2017-011</i>	Laying Out and Accepting Private Way(s) - Fern Hollow Road and Hillside Lane	October 3, 2017
<i>O-2017-037</i>	Town Council Acceptance of Open Space and Recreational Plan Update	October 3, 2017

## Orders Directory 2017 (continued)

Town of Bridgewater—Town Council—2017 Orders Voted

Order #	Order Title	Date Adopted
<i>O-FY18-006</i>	Loan Order - Water Meter Replacement Project	October 17, 2017
<i>O-FY18-008</i>	Transfer Order - Sewer Enterprise Transfer for Emergency Repairs	November 7, 2017
<i>O-FY18-009</i>	Trust Fund Transfer - Senior Center Folding Partition	November 7, 2017
<i>O-FY18-011</i>	Collective Bargaining Agreement Ratification – AFSCME	November 7, 2017
<i>O-2016-027</i>	Acceptance of Changes to the Bridgewater Home Rule Charter	November 21, 2017
<i>O-FY18-014</i>	Town Council Acceptance of Proposal & Authorization for the Town Manager to Negotiate a Purchase & Sale for the McElwain School	November 21, 2017
<i>O-FY18-010</i>	FY2018 Classification Tax Allocation-Adoption of Residential Factor	December 5, 2017
<i>O-FY18-012</i>	Transfer Order - General Fund Transfer to Transfer Station	December 5, 2017
<i>O-FY18-013</i>	Free Cash Allocation	December 5, 2017

## Resolutions Directory 2017

Town of Bridgewater—Town Council—2017 Resolutions Voted

### Directory of Documents:

<https://www.bridgewaterma.org/DocumentCenter/View/2146/2017-Adopted-Resolutions-Documents-for-Town-Report---083018>

Online Readers: After arriving at the web page with the directory, you may:

- Click on a Resolution number or name to view it
- Scroll the page to browse for a particular Resolution
- Search on the page to find a specific Resolution

Resolution #	Resolution Title	Date Adopted
<i>R-2017-001</i>	Town Council Approval of Reclamation Project at MacDonald Industries, DBA Marilyn's Landing	February 28, 2017
<i>R-FY18-002</i>	2018 Town Council Meeting Dates	October 17, 2017
<i>R-FY18-001</i>	Directing the Town Manager to Explore Acquiring Specific Land - Summer Street	December 5, 2017
<i>R-FY18-003</i>	Bridgewater's FY2019 Budget Policy Guidelines	December 19, 2017

**Accounts Receivable Reconciliation—6/30/2017**

Placeholder page 1 AR

**Financials (continued)**

**Accounts Receivable: Reconciliation—6/30/2017** *continued*

Placeholder Page 2 AR

**Financials (continued)**

**Accounts Receivable: Reconciliation—6/30/2017** *continued*

Placeholder AR Page 3



**Financials (continued)**

**Accounts Receivable: Reconciliation—6/30/2017** *continued*

Placeholder AR Page 4

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017**

Placeholder Statement of Activities (AFS p1)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement—Fiscal Year 2017** *continued*

Placeholder Statement of Net Position (AFS p2)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017** *continued*

Placeholder for Governmental Funds Balance (AFS p3)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017 *continued***

Placeholder for Reconciliation Governmental Funds Balance Sheet (AFS p4)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017 *continued***

Placeholder for Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, Changes Governmental Funds  
(AFS p5)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017 *continued***

Placeholder for Reconciliation of Statement of Revenues, Expenditures, and Changes  
(AFS p 6)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017** *continued*

Placeholder Propriety Funds Statement of Revenues, Expenses and Changes in Net Position (AFS p7)



**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017 *continued***

Placeholder for Proprietary Funds Statement of Net Position (AFS p8)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017** *continued*

Placeholder for Proprietary Funds: Statement of Cash Flows (AFS p9)

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017 *continued***

Placeholder for Fiduciary Funds: Statement of Net Position (AFS p10))

**Financials (continued)**

**Audited Financial Statement--Fiscal Year 2017** *continued*

Placeholder for Fiduciary Funds: Statement of Changes in Net Position (AFS p11)

## General Fund Budget to Actual—Fiscal Year 2017

Placeholder General Expense Fund p.1

## **General Revenue Fund Budget to Actual—Fiscal Year 2017**

Placeholder General Revenue Fund

## **Enterprise Funds Budget to Actual—Fiscal Year 2017**

Placeholder Enterprise Funds

## **Combined Balance Sheet—Fiscal Year 2017**

Placeholder Combined Balance Sheet



## **Long-Term Debt Summary—Fiscal Year 2017**

Financials (continued)

## Treasurer's Report—Fiscal Year 2017

A summary of the financial transactions for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2017

Cash on hand and on deposit

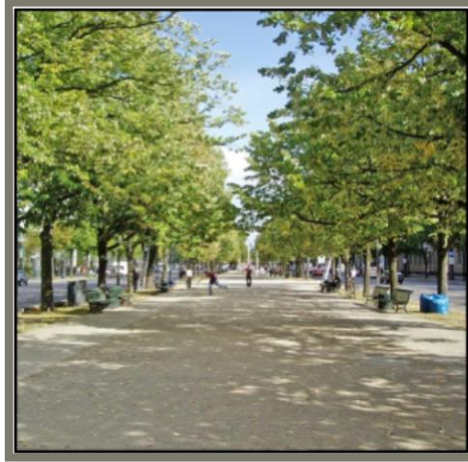
June 30, 2016	25,183,148.48
Receipts	66,245,137.48
Disbursements	(67,684,548.78)
<b>Balance June 30, 2017</b>	23,743,737.18
Agency Trust Funds	19,874,949.18
Cash Balance	3,868,788.00
<b>Total</b>	23,743,737.18

Month	Disbursements	Receipts
July	10,268,155.62	11,839,703.40
August	2,684,700.58	8,204,762.54
September	2,741,364.05	2,655,295.08
October	9,254,555.98	5,389,572.37
November	3,675,656.86	6,688,918.10
December	2,416,217.54	2,611,363.71
January	10,235,440.09	6,415,132.80
February	4,344,178.07	6,634,008.29
March	3,477,990.77	5,395,356.37
April	9,775,034.88	4,016,331.69
May	4,139,147.56	5,062,491.43
June	3,232,695.48	2,771,613.00
	<b>66,245,137.48</b>	<b>67,684,548.78</b>

# Views from Bridgewater

## Winter and Spring

The **front cover** photo on this report features Route 28/ Main Street's gateway to Bridgewater from West Bridgewater. It is lined with Linden Trees as an homage to Berlin, Germany's famous *Unter-den-Linden* Boulevard, developed as an equestrian path by John George of Brandenburg in the 1500s. Bridgewater's Lindens were planted by the Bridgewater Improvement Association in the 1970's and have matured to provide an elegant entrance to our beautiful Town in all seasons.



*Unter-den-Linden* Boulevard, Berlin, Germany

### Photographic Credits

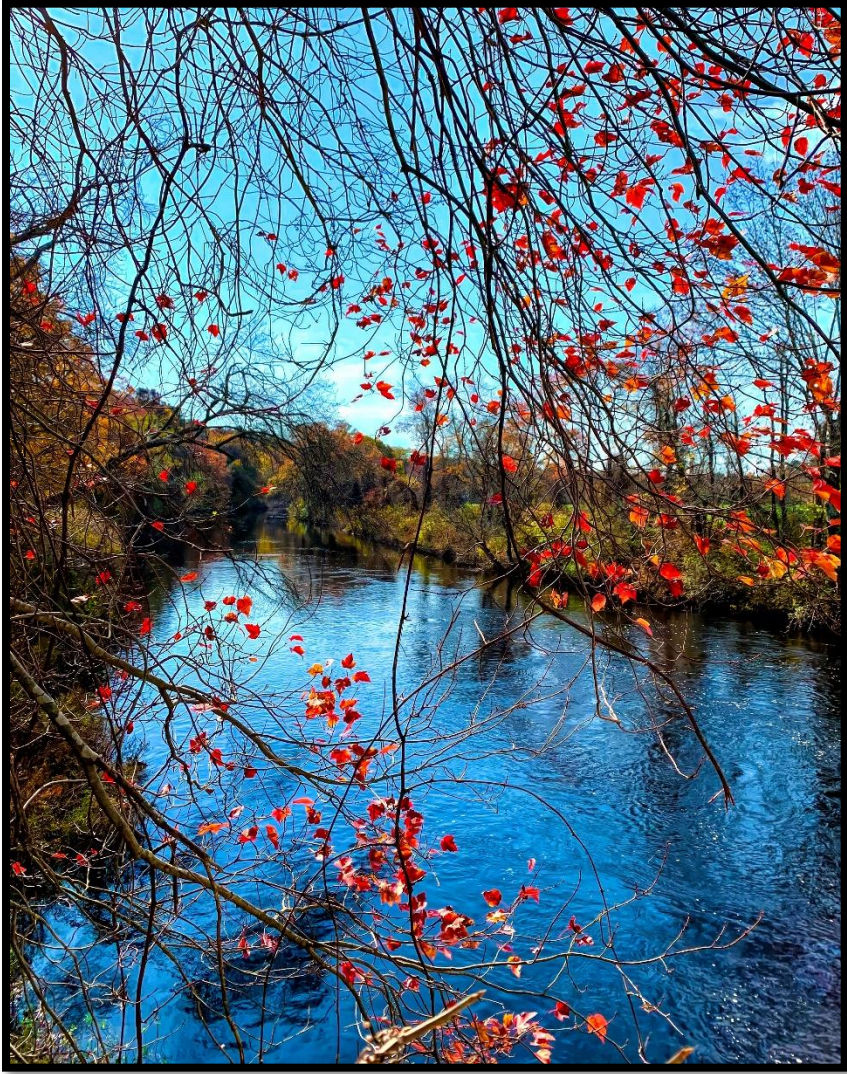
#### **Outside Front Cover: Bridgewater's Main Street Lindens**

Photo by:  
Carlton D. Hunt, Ph.D.  
Bridgewater Resident

#### **Outside Back Cover: Taunton River in the Spring**

Photo by:  
Ruth Langlan, Bridgewater  
<http://ruthiedeephphotography.com/>

# Taunton River in Spring



The Taunton River, a nationally designated Wild and Scenic River, flows freely—without dams or other impediments—from its formation at the confluence of the Matfield and Town Rivers in Bridgewater to a point forty miles downstream, where it empties into Mount Hope Bay. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 identifies free flowing rivers across the United States, all of which possess “outstandingly remarkable values.” Those values include scenery, recreation, geology, fish and wildlife history, cultural, and other similar assets.

